

EIGHTY-NINTH ANNUAL
CONFERENCE
Of the Church of Jesus Christ
of Latter-day Saints



Held in the Tabernacle and Assembly
Hall, Salt Lake City, Utah, June 1st,
2nd and 3rd, 1919, with a Full Report
of the Discourses

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Eighty-Ninth Annual Conference

Of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

FIRST DAY

The Eighty-ninth Annual Conference of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints convened in the Tabernacle, Salt Lake City, at 10 o'clock a. m., Sunday, June 1, 1919, the conference having been postponed from April 6, 1919, owing to the health conditions of the communities. President Heber J. Grant presided.

AUTHORITIES PRESENT.

Of the First Presidency: Heber J. Grant, Anthon H. Lund, and Charles W. Penrose; of the Council of the Twelve Apostles: Rudger Clawson,* George Albert Smith,* Orson F. Whitney, David O. McKay, Anthony W. Ivins, Joseph Fielding Smith, James E. Talmage, Stephen L. Richards, Richard R. Lyman and Melvin J. Ballard. Presiding Patriarch Hyrum G. Smith; of the First Council of Seventy, Seymour B. Young, Brigham H. Roberts, J. Golden Kimball, Rulon S. Wells, Joseph W. McMurrin, Charles H. Hart, Levi Edgar Young; of the Presiding Bishopric, Charles W. Nibley, David A. Smith and John Wells; Assistant Historians, Andrew Jenson and A. Wil-

liam Lund. There were also a large number of presidents of stakes, with their counselors, Patriarchs, Bishops of wards, and numerous other prominent men and women representing the various quorums and organizations of the Church.

The following presidents of missions, and their successors, where appointed, were in attendance: Walter P. Monson and his newly appointed successor, George W. McCune, Eastern States; Samuel O. Bennion, Central States; German E. Ellsworth, and his successor Winslow Farr Smith, Northern States; John L. Herrick, and his successor, John M. Knight, Western States; Joseph E. Robinson, and his successor Joseph W. McMurrin, California; Charles A. Callis, Southern States; Heber C. Iverson, Northwestern States; Ray L. Pratt, Mexican; E. Wesley Smith, Hawaiian; Nephi Jensen, Canadian; Theodore Tobiason, Swedish; Benj. Goddard, Bureau of Information Temple Block; and President George Albert Smith, of the British Mission, who is to release Elder George F. Richards.

President Heber J. Grant called the great congregation to order.

The choir and congregation sang: "We thank thee, O God, for a prophet."

*Reed Smoot was absent in Washington, and Geo. F. Richards presiding over the British Mission.

Prayer was offered by Elder Hyrum G. Smith, presiding Patriarch of the Church.

The choir and congregation sang: "Come, come, ye Saints."

THE SOLEMN ASSEMBLY.

The quorums of the Priesthood and officers were present, in solemn assembly, for the purpose of voting, in that capacity, for General Authorities of the Church. The quorums and officers in nine divisions voted in the following order: First Presidency; Apostles; Patriarchs; Presidents of stakes, Counselors and High Councilors; High Priests; Seventies; Elders; Bishops and Counselors, and the Lesser Priesthood.

They were arranged as follows: First Presidency and Apostles, in their respective places on the stand; Patriarchs, south wing of the stand; Presidents of stakes, Counselors and High Counselors, lower stands and left front; High Priests, left center of main hall; Seventies, right center of main hall; Elders back left of main hall; Bishops and counselors, left wing of the stand, Lesser Priesthood back of the north left isle. The remaining portions of the building, including the galleries, were occupied by members at large.

ORDER OF VOTING.

President Heber J. Grant stated that in voting, each quorum of the Priesthood would rise and the members voting would raise their right hands, and then be quickly seated so that the process of voting might be done as quickly as possible. Those wishing to vote in the negative would vote in like manner.

The order of voting was as follows:

First.—The First Presidency.

Second.—The Apostles.

Third.—Patriarchs.

Fourth.—The Presidents of stakes, their Counselors, and High Councilors.

Fifth.—High Priests.

Sixth.—Seventies.

Seventh.—Elders.

Eighth.—Bishops and their Counselors.

Ninth.—The Lesser Priesthood (Priests, Teachers and Deacons.)

Tenth.—All the members of the Church present.

Practically the whole body of the hall was occupied completely by the Priesthood, and the scene from the stand, as the many thousands of men stood up, quorum by quorum, to vote, their right hands raised to the square, was the most impressive stately, and dignified religious solemnity that the eyes of man ever beheld, not to speak of the scene, when the whole audience ten thousand in number, covenanted unanimously in like manner to sustain their chosen leaders.

OFFICERS VOTED FOR.

Following are the officers voted upon, and the introductory remarks by:

PRESIDENT HEBER J. GRANT.

We will now present to the congregation the General Authorities of the Church, those holding the Priesthood only. Inasmuch as there will be ten votes called, comprising the different orders of the Priesthood, and the assembly as a whole, and it will take so much time, only the General Authorities will be presented at this conference.

GENERAL AUTHORITIES.

It was proposed that we sustain: Heber J. Grant, as Prophet, Seer and Revelator and President of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

Antho[n] H. Lund, as First Counselor in the First Presidency.

Charles W. Penrose, as Second Counselor in the First Presidency.

Rudger Clawson, as acting President of the Twelve Apostles.

As members of the Council of Twelve Apostles:

Rudger Clawson

Reed Smoot

George Albert Smith

George F. Richards

Orson F. Whitney

David O. McKay

Anthony W. Ivins

Joseph Fielding Smith

James E. Talmage

Stephen L. Richards

Richard R. Lyman

Melvin J. Ballard

Hyrum G. Smith, as Presiding Patriarch of the Church.

The Counselors in the First Presidency, the Twelve Apostles and Patriarch, as Prophets, Seers and Revelators.

First Seven Presidents of Seventy: Seymour B. Young, Brigham

H. Roberts, Jonathan G. Kimball, Rulon S. Wells, Joseph W. McMurrin, Charles H. Hart and Levi Edgar Young.

Charles W. Nibley, as Presiding Bishop, with David A. Smith and John Wells as his First and Second Counselors.

Heber J. Grant, as Trustee-in-Trust for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

In each instance President Grant announced the motion to sustain the authority voted upon and called for the affirmative vote. Following the response, the negative of the question was presented, and should there be any who favored it, they were requested to make known their will.

The voting throughout, which was completed at 10:37 o'clock, was unanimous without exception in favor of the affirmative.

A soprano solo, "A Voice in the Wilderness," was sung by Mrs. Brewerton.

President Grant gave notice that an overflow meeting would now be opened in the Assembly Hall, and he appointed the First Council of Seventy to take charge, and devote the time and their remarks to the memory of President Joseph F. Smith.

PRESIDENT HEBER J. GRANT

We regret that all of the Saints cannot be present in one building to hear the remarks that may be made upon this occasion. We also regret that the men who stand at the head of this great body of Seventies could not remain here to partake of the spirit of this occasion. But we feel that those who have met in the Assembly Hall are entitled to hear some of the general authorities of the Church speak upon the life and labors, and bear witness of their love and reverence for, and their faith in, our beloved prophet, the late President Joseph F. Smith, who has departed this life since we last met in general conference.

THE SPIRIT GIVETH LIFE.

Inasmuch as all that is said here today will be reported, and as our brethren of the Seventy can read what is said, they will miss only the spirit

of this occasion, which I feel in my heart—if the Lord will only bless us abundantly—will be considerable of a loss; because, after all is said and done, in all the labors of the Latter-day Saints, it is the spirit that counts, for the spirit giveth life, and the dead letter killeth; but we shall hope and pray that the spirit of this occasion will find echo in the hearts of our brethren who have just left us, when they read today's proceedings.

A PLEDGE OF FAITHFUL SERVICE.

I feel humble, beyond any language with which God has endowed me to express it, in standing before you here this morning, occupying the position in which you have just voted to sustain me. I recall standing before an audience in Tooele, after having been sustained as president of that stake, when I was a young man twenty-three years of age, pledging to that audience the best that was in me. I stand here today in all humility, acknowledging my own weakness, my own lack of wisdom and information, and my lack of the ability to occupy the exalted position in which you have voted to sustain me. But as I said as a boy in Tooele, I say here today: that by and with the help of the Lord, I shall do the best that I can to fulfil every obligation that shall rest upon me as President of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, to the full extent of my ability.

I will ask no man to be more liberal with his means, than I am with mine, in proportion to what he possesses, for the advancement of God's Kingdom. I will ask no man to observe the Word of Wisdom any more closely than I will observe it. I will ask no man to be more conscientious and prompt in the payment of his tithes and his offerings than I will be. I will ask no man to be more ready and willing to come early and to go late, and to labor with full power of mind and body, than I will labor, always in humility. I hope and pray for the blessings of the Lord, acknowledging freely and frankly, that without the Lord's blessings it will be an impossibility for me to make a success of the high calling whereunto I have been called. But, like Nephi of old, I know that the Lord makes no requirements of the children of men, save he will prepare a way for them, whereby they can accomplish the thing which he has required. With this knowledge in my heart, I accept the great responsibility, without fear of the consequences, knowing that God will sustain me as he has sustained all of my predecessors who have occupied this position, provided always, that I shall labor in humility and in diligence, ever seeking for the guidance of his Holy Spirit; and this I shall endeavor to do.

THE STANDARD OF ACTION.

I shall not occupy your time by reading Section 121 of the Doctrine and Covenants. I will leave that for each and every one of those before me, and those to the right and the left, holding the priesthood, and as many of the audience as may feel so disposed, to read it when they go home. With the help of the Lord, I shall endeavor, standing at the head of the Priesthood of God upon the earth, to exercise the authority that has come to me in keeping with that wonderful revelation: "No power or

influence can or ought to be maintained by virtue of the Priesthood, only by persuasion, by long suffering, by gentleness, and meekness, and by love unfeigned." God being my helper, the priesthood that I hold, the position that I occupy, shall be exercised in accordance with these words that I have quoted to you. We can do nothing, as recorded in that revelation, only as we exercise love and charity and kindness—love unfeigned. With the help of the Lord that is exactly how I shall administer, to the best of my ability, the priesthood of God that has come to me.

I could stand here and occupy all of the remaining time, with the hundred and one thoughts that have come into my mind, in connection with the duties that devolve upon me; but I am anxious that my counselors should speak to you here this morning, and I am anxious to pay my tribute of respect to those men who have preceded me. I take no credit to myself for occupying the position that has come to me. I realize that failure will be the result if I do not give the Lord the credit for calling me to this position, and seek for the light of his Spirit to guide me in all that I shall do.

PRESIDENT SNOW'S TESTIMONY CONCERNING THE PROPHET JOSEPH.

I desire to read to you a testimony regarding the first man who occupied the position as President of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints—the Prophet Joseph Smith, Jr. This testimony was given a short time before the death of the late beloved President of the Church, Lorenzo Snow, and will be found in the current June number of the *Improvement Era*, in an article written by his son, Elder LeRoi C. Snow. He said, referring to his father

"His work on earth was nearly done, his mission was almost finished; he was about to return to his Maker, and with all the remaining strength of his soul he testified concerning the divinity of the work in which he and the Prophet Joseph Smith commenced their life's work when young men:

"A word or two about Joseph Smith. Perhaps there are very few men now living who were so well acquainted with Joseph Smith, the Prophet as I was. I was with him often-times. I visited him in his family, ate at his table, associated with him under various circumstances, and had private interviews with him for counsel. I know that Joseph Smith was a Prophet of God; I know that he was an honorable man, a moral man, and that he had the respect of those who were acquainted with him. The Lord has shown me most clearly and completely that he was a Prophet of God, and that he held the holy priesthood and the authority to baptize people for the remission of their sins, and to lay hands upon them for the reception of the Holy Ghost, that they might receive a knowledge themselves in relation to these things. I am one who has received from the Lord the strongest revelation concerning the truth of this work. That manifestation was with me powerfully, for hours and hours, and whatever circumstance may occur in my life, as long as memory lasts this perfect knowledge will remain with me. . . ."

As to the testimony that Lorenzo Snow, the Prophet of the Lord, in later years had, in this same article his testimony is recorded.

"About three weeks after his baptism, Lorenzo Snow received a wonderful vision which he tells in his own language, in his journal, as follows:

"I had no sooner opened my lips in an effort to pray than I heard a sound, just above my head, like the rustling of silken robes, and immediately the Spirit of God descended upon me, completely enveloping my whole per-

son, filling me, from the crown of my head to the soles of my feet, and O, the joy and happiness I felt! No language can describe the almost instantaneous transition from a dense cloud of mental and spiritual darkness into a fulgence of light and knowledge, as it was at that time imparted to my understanding. I then received a perfect knowledge that God lives, that Jesus Christ is the Son of God, and of the restoration of the Holy Priesthood, and the fulness of the Gospel. It was a complete baptism—a tangible immersion in the heavenly principle or element (the gift of) the Holy Ghost; and even more real and physical in its effects upon every part of my system than the immersion by water; dispelling forever, so long as reason and memory lasts, all possibility of doubt or fear in relation to the fact handed down to us historically, that the 'Babe of Bethlehem' is truly the Son of God; also the fact that he is now being revealed to the children of men, and communicating knowledge, the same as in the apostolic times. I was perfectly satisfied, as well as I might be, for my expectations were more than realized, I think I may safely say in an infinite degree. . . . That night as I retired to rest the same wonderful manifestations were repeated, and continued to be for several successive nights. The sweet remembrance of those glorious experiences from that time to the present, bring them fresh before me, imparting an inspiring influence which pervades my whole being, and I trust will to the close of my earthly existence."

CONFIRMING TESTIMONY OF MANY OTHERS.

I have listened to the testimony of all of the apostles who have lived in these valleys of the mountains from Brigham Young to Joseph F. Smith, and have heard them tell of their personal acquaintance with the Prophet Joseph Smith. The testimony of Joseph F. Smith was the testimony of one who as a child knew the Prophet and loved him. The testimony of Brigham Young, Jr., was in the same class; but all the other testimonies were those of men of experience, men of power, men of individual determination, men who had wills and minds of their own, men who could not be led by a man who did not teach the truth.

The testimony of Brigham Young, of John Taylor, of Lorenzo Snow, Wilford Woodruff, Erastus Snow, George A. Smith, Heber C. Kimball, and of others who have held the apostleship, who have held the priesthood of God and who knew the Prophet Joseph Smith intimately: of every true Latter-day Saint, man and woman, including the testimony of my own dear departed mother, than whom no sweeter, purer, nobler soul ever lived; the testimony of Eliza R. Snow, Zina D. H. Young, Bathsheba W. Smith, "Aunt Em." Wells, and others too numerous to mention,—was of their individual knowledge regarding the uprightness of the life of Joseph Smith, regarding the integrity of the man, regarding the inspiration of the living God that attended him in all of his labors.

THE TRANSFIGURATION OF BRIGHAM YOUNG.

I have the testimonies from George Romney, from my mother, from other relatives of mine and from scores of people, that, upon the day when Sidney Rigdon endeavored to steal the Church of Christ and to become the leader, God manifested to the people upon that occasion, by the transfiguration of Brigham Young—so that he appeared as Joseph Smith, so that he spoke as Joseph Smith—and thereby the testimony came to the Saints that Brigham Young was the man to succeed Joseph Smith the Prophet of God.

PERSONAL TESTIMONY CONCERNING PRESIDENT BRIGHAM YOUNG.

I became acquainted with Brigham Young when I was a little child six years of age; from that time until the day of his death I was intimate with him. I was as intimate with one of his boys—the late Feramorz L. Young—from the time that we were little children until he left to go to Mexico—as any two boys ever could be. Perhaps no three young men were ever more intimate than Heber J. Grant, Feramorz L. Young and General Richard W. Young. We grew up together. We slept together. We played together. We attended Sunday school together. We attended day school together.

I was almost as familiar in the homes of President Brigham Young as I was in the home of my own mother. In one home, that of Aunt Emily Partridge Young, if I was hungry I felt as free to go in and ask for something to eat there as in my own home. I have spent hours and hours, as a child, in the rooms of Eliza R. Snow, listening to her counsel and advice, and hearing her relate incidents in the life of Joseph Smith the Prophet, and bearing witness of the wonderful blessings of God to Brigham Young. As I say, I was familiar with the Prophet Brigham Young. I knelt down time and time again in his home in the Lion House at family pravers, as a child and as a young man; and I bear witness that as a little child, upon more than one occasion, because of the inspiration of the Lord to Brigham Young while he was supplicating God for guidance, I have lifted my head, turned and looked at the place where Brigham Young was praying, to see if the Lord was not there. It seemed to me that he talked to the Lord as one man would talk to another. I can bear witness of his kindness, of his love to me as an individual, of his love of God and of the inspiration of the Lord that came to him as he stood where I am standing, when I had the privilege of being in the audience and listening to his inspiring words.

REVELATION TO PRESIDENT JOHN TAYLOR.

I was called into the Council of the Twelve Apostles by a revelation of the Lord to President John Taylor, and from the time that I entered the Council of the Twelve, two years after John Taylor was made President of the Church, until the day of his death, I met with him, week after week, in the Endowment house, and I know that he was a servant of the living God; I know that the inspiration of the Lord came to him: and I know that upon all occasions, whenever he said: "This is what the Lord desires," and his associates in the council of the apostles sustained his position, that upon every occasion he was vindicated and the inspiration of the Lord to him showed that his wisdom by the power of God; had been superior to the wisdom of other men. Several times I have gone to meetings in the old Endowment house, knowing that a certain matter was to be discussed and my mind was as perfectly set upon a certain position on that question as it is possible for a man to have his mind set. I believe I am as decided in my opinions as the majority of people. I have heard it said that there is nobody as stubborn as a Scotchman except a Dutchman; and I am Scotch on my father's side and Dutch on my mother's (laughter). While I have gone to meetings in the old Endowment house determined in favor of a certain

line of policy, I have willingly and freely voted for the exact opposite of that policy, because of the inspiration of the Lord that came to John Taylor. Upon every such occasion the servant of the Lord, President Taylor, was vindicated, and his superior judgment, by the inspiration of the Lord, asserted itself in favor of those things that were for the best good of the people.

I could relate circumstance after circumstance when the apostles have been sent out to accomplish certain labors under the inspiration of the Lord to John Taylor, when they thought they could not accomplish the labors, they have returned and been able to bear testimony that by and with the help of the Lord they had been able to accomplish the labor placed upon them by President Taylor, the Prophet of the Lord. If time would permit, I would like to relate some of these incidents, because they are faith-promoting, but I have not the time.

PRESIDENT WILFORD WOODRUFF A TRUE PROPHET OF GOD.

I can bear witness that Wilford Woodruff was in very deed a servant of the living God and a true Prophet of God. Wilford Woodruff, a humble man, converted and baptized hundreds of people in a few months in Herefordshire, England. In eight months, as I now remember it, he baptized between fifteen hundred and two thousand souls. I believe that no other man who ever walked the face of the earth was a greater converter of souls to the Gospel of Jesus Christ. He was a man of the most wonderful and marvelous humility; a man who had never been engaged in any great business affairs; a man who had devoted himself to farming, who had been engaged in raising fruits and cultivating the soil; a humble man, of whom I had heard many people say that he lacked the ability to preside over the Church of Christ. But I want to bear witness to you that, under the inspiration of the Lord, and because of the humility of the man, because of his godlike life and because God loved him, he was blessed upon more than one occasion with wisdom that was superior to all the wisdom of the bright financial minds in the Church.

BEGINNING OF THE SUGAR INDUSTRY IN UTAH.

President Woodruff announced that the Lord would like the great business of manufacturing sugar established in our midst, and a committee was appointed from the directorate of two of the largest Church institutions, two of the most substantial in all Israel, to look into the matter. They investigated the advisability of establishing the beet sugar industry in this State and unanimously reported adversely. President Woodruff was not satisfied. Another committee was appointed. I was on the first committee and he appointed me on the second committee. I begged to be excused, because I had already formed my opinion, had already signed my name to a report, but he would not listen to my request to be excused. We went into the matter again, thoroughly and carefully, and the second committee reported adversely. President Woodruff said: "Never mind the report. The inspiration to me is to establish the sugar industry."

I was called upon a mission, and a letter was given to me in connection with other members of the Council of the Apostles, and we were sent

out to ask men to subscribe for stock in the Utah Sugar Company. I took individual letters to different men asking them to subscribe. I delivered a letter to the late David Eccles, than whom I never met a clearer-headed business man in my life, and I have met men who draw their hundred thousand dollars and more every year in salary. He had a comprehensive grasp on business affairs which to me was superior to that of any man I ever met. David smiled when the letter was presented to him, signed by President Woodruff and his counselors, asking him to invest five thousand dollars, or seven thousand five hundred dollars. He said: "Well, I would like to get off at the lowest figure. You can put me down for five thousand dollars." Then he added: "I hope they will buy lumber from me, so I may make a profit on a part of the five thousand dollars; and after I get the stock, if you can find someone who would like to buy it for twenty-five hundred dollars, I will be much obliged to you if you will come and get the stock." Years later, when he put hundreds of thousands of dollars into the sugar business, I don't know whether or not he felt to give credit to that humble man, Wilford Woodruff, for the inspiration of the Lord, whereby this great industry was established.

But for the inspiration of the Lord to Wilford Woodruff I doubt if we would have any sugar business in this state or in Idaho, today, that would amount to very much. I am inclined to think that the Great Western or some other company would have established the business in Utah and Idaho, and that the people of these states would simply have been working for them instead of owning the majority of the stock in our great inter-mountain factories.

After we had let the contract for the building of the sugar factory at Lehi, the panic of 1891 came on. There was a provision in the contract that before the machinery was shipped by the Dyer Company, if we would pay a forfeit of fifty thousand dollars the contract could be cancelled. I had been sent to New York, Chicago, Boston, Philadelphia, San Francisco and other places, by the Presidency, to try to raise the money necessary to build this factory, but it looked like an impossibility to get the money. It was the opinion of business men and others that we should pay the fifty thousand dollars forfeit and abandon the enterprise; but when the recommendation was presented, Wilford Woodruff's answer was this: "From the day I received a knowledge of the divinity of the gospel of Jesus Christ revealed through the Prophet Joseph Smith, from the day that I went out as a humble priest to proclaim that gospel, although it looked like death in front of me, if the path of duty that the gospel required me to tread called me to face death, I have never turned to the right nor turned to the left; and now the inspiration of the Lord to me is to build this factory. Every time I think of abandoning it, there is darkness; and every time I think of building it, there is light. We will build the factory if it bursts the Church."

We did built it and it did not burst the Church (laughter); and it and subsequent factories have made for our people and for the Church millions of dollars.

PRESIDENT SNOW'S WORK OF THREE YEARS.

I know that Lorenzo Snow was a Prophet of God. By his testi-

mony, which I have read to you, and by the testimony of my mother and hundreds of others who knew the Prophet Joseph, as well as by the revelations of the Spirit of God to me, I know that Joseph Smith was a Prophet of God. I know of my own knowledge that Brigham Young, and John Taylor and Wilford Woodruff were Prophets of God. It is stated that men do not amount to much after they pass fifty, and that when they are sixty you ought to get some kind of a drug and put them to sleep, and that when they are seventy they are simply useless. But Lorenzo Snow came to the presidency of the Church when he was eighty-five years of age, and what he accomplished during the next three years of his life is simply marvelous to contemplate. He lifted the Church from the financial slough of despond, so to speak, from almost financial bankruptcy—when its credit was hardly good for a thousand dollars without security, when it was paying ten per cent for money—he lifted the Church out of that condition and made its credit A No. 1, so that people solicited and asked for the privilege of buying the bonds of this Church at six per cent. Ten per cent is sixty-six and two-thirds per cent more than six per cent, and in three short years this man, beyond the age of ability in the estimation of the world, this man who had not been engaged in financial affairs, who had been devoting his life for years to laboring in the Temple, took hold of the finances of the Church of Christ, under the inspiration of the living God, and in those three years changed everything, financially, from darkness to light.

I know that Lorenzo Snow was God's mouthpiece upon the earth, that he was the representative of the Lord and that he was in very deed a Prophet of God. Read the wonderful testimony that he received a few weeks after his baptism, as recorded in the *Improvement Era*, concerning the knowledge that he received that God lived, that Jesus is the Christ, the Redeemer of the world, and that the priesthood of the living God has been restored to the earth. I know that that knowledge guided his life from that day to the day that he became God's representative upon the earth.

THE COURAGE OF PRESIDENT JOSEPH F. SMITH.

Lorenzo Snow was drowned in the harbor of Honolulu, in the Hawaiian Islands, and it took some hours to bring him to life again. At that particular time the Lord revealed to him the fact that the young man Joseph F. Smith, who had refused to get off the vessel that had carried them from San Francisco to Honolulu, and get into a small boat, would some day be the Prophet of God. Answering Lorenzo Snow who was in charge of the company, he said: "If you by the authority of the Priesthood of God, which you hold, tell me to get into that boat and attempt to land, I will do so, but unless you command me in the authority of the Priesthood, I will not do so, because it is not safe to attempt to land in a small boat while this typhoon is raging." They laughed at the young man Joseph F. Smith, but he said, "The boat will capsize." The others got into the boat, and it did capsize; and but for the blessings of the Lord in resuscitating Lorenzo Snow he would not have lived, because he was drowned upon that occasion. It was revealed to him, then and there, that the boy, with the courage of his convictions, with the iron

will to be laughed at and scorned as lacking courage to go in that boat, and who stayed on that vessel, would yet be the Prophet of God. Lorenzo Snow told me this upon more than one occasion, long years before Joseph F. Smith came to the presidency of the Church.

EULOGY AND LETTER OF SYMPATHY IN MEMORY OF PRESIDENT
JOSEPH F. SMITH.

I said I wanted my counselors to say something, but I am afraid they are not going to have the chance. I now come to Joseph F. Smith. I apologize to his family for reading a personal letter of sympathy. I had no idea as I sat down and picked up my pen and poured out my heart in love and sympathy to the family, that I would ever read in public that letter; but I had failed to get my mind upon anything that I particularly desired to say upon this occasion, and last night I borrowed from one of his sons a copy of the letter; and although it may not be good ethics, I wish to read it, because therein are the sentiments of my heart, poured out in love to his family.

At Home, November 20, 1918.

To the family of President Joseph F. Smith.

My dearly beloved friends: Language fails me to express to you my love for your dear departed father and husband. In dear Aunt Eliza R. Snow's words I can truthfully say, "He was beloved, beloved by all."

For thirty-six years I have labored under his Presidency, while he was counselor to or the President of the Church. During all this time no man could possibly have inspired one over whom he presided with more love or confidence for him than President Smith did me. I have said many times that no man who ever lived, with whom I have been associated, had been beloved by me as much as your dear departed husband and father.

I could not and did not in my heart bring myself to feel that he was going to leave us until the afternoon of the 18th, when I called and David said he wanted to see me. The President took my hand and pressed it with a power and strength that was far from what one could expect from a dying man, and he blessed me with power and the Spirit of the living God, and there was love in his eyes and a strong pressure of his hand, and with nearly every word he spoke his pressure of my hand thrilled my being, and tears of gratitude to God and love for His mouthpiece upon the earth filled my heart. His blessing was all that I could ask or expect had he been my own dear father.

Sister Bowman entered and kissed and wept over her father, and I walked into the little front office and wept, feeling that the last words I would ever hear from his beloved lips had been spoken when he said to me, "The Lord bless you, my boy, the Lord bless you, you have a great responsibility. Always remember this is the Lord's work and not man's. The Lord is greater than any man. He knows whom He wants to lead His Church and never makes any mistakes. The Lord bless you."

I returned to my office, but I did not even have the heart to mail some letters which I had written earlier in the day. I went home and after eating supper I again visited the President, whom I found in great

pain, and he asked President Lund who was there to bless him and supplicate the Lord to release him, and call him home. We placed our hands upon his head and President Lund told the Lord how much we loved our President and of our gratitude for the joy and happiness we had had in laboring with him, but asked that he be called home if his life could not be spared to us.

The next morning I awoke at one o'clock and was not able to get to sleep until after six-thirty, as my mind was with the President. I got the November *Era* and reread the President's talk at the October conference, and after doing so I wrote in my *Era* at the close of his talk:

"Nov. 19/18. Re-read twice and wept as I think of how near death's door the President is.

"It is 3:45 and I have been awake since one a. m."—*Heber J. Grant.*

The President lived but one hour and five minutes after I had written that he was near death's door.

The Lord has been very good to me in times of sorrow, and I hope and pray with all my heart that He will bless and comfort your sorrowing hearts, as you read of his goodness to me. I am enclosing a copy of a letter telling of the blessings given to me in times of affliction. There are two poems among those published with my letter to Brother and Sister Winters which have comforted and blessed me. "The Changed Cross," and "Providence is Over All."* Especially have I been blessed while reading Sister Woodmansee's inspiring words. I knew her from my earliest recollection until the day of her death, and my love of her poem was no doubt increased from the fact that she lived in perfect harmony with its teachings.

I was once talking of the favorite poems of our Church leaders and I turned to President Smith and asked him which of our hymns was his favorite and he said he hardly knew, but he thought that perhaps his favorite was the splendid hymn, "Uphold the Right, Though Fierce the Fight," by that heroic little soul, Sister Emily Hill Woodmansee."† I enclose a copy of this hymn with this letter.

I have never known the joy and comfort of a father's love, but Presidents Joseph F. Smith, Francis M. Lyman, John Henry Smith, and others of my near and dear associates have given me a father's love and filled the place in my affections as completely as men not one's father could possibly do.

Never in my life have I listened to more inspiring words than those at the funeral of my dear departed mother and at the funeral of my dear brother, Joseph Hyrum, which were spoken by President Smith.

I am thankful beyond any power to tell for the inspiration to do my full duty in the battle of life which has come to me from the example and loving teachings of your beloved father and husband.

Flowers fade in a day, and so I shall send each of you for Gusta and myself in loving remembrance of your dear departed husband and father the book "Their Yesterdays." * * I send this book for the reason

*See this Conference Report, p. 14.

†See this Conference Report, p. 14.

**See this Conference Report, p. 15.

that when I read it, March 20th, 1914, I marked one of the passages which seemed to me at the time I read the book to be inspirational. It is on pages 228-9. I wrote in my book the sentiments of my heart at the time regarding President Smith in connection with the words on those pages. What I wrote was as follows: "More than any man I have ever known, President Joseph F. Smith has done this. God bless him forever, and his posterity after him. The fact that he is the Prophet of God today is a great testimony to me of the divinity of 'Mormonism' so called."

Little did I think when I wrote these words that he would have departed this life by now.

One of the most sincere and earnest prayers of my heart has been that President Smith should live to celebrate the one hundredth anniversary of the birth of the Church. I prayed for this some months ago at the close of a Temple fast meeting, and the Lord so abundantly blessed me that I felt my prayer would be answered, and I sat down weeping for joy.

I could go on writing for hours, but I will close by sending my assurance and that of Sister Grant of our profound sympathy, and our most earnest prayer for God to comfort and bless your sorrowing hearts. President Smith sealed us as husband and wife for time and all eternity, and Gusta shares in all the expressions of love for him and admiration of his character in this letter. Again, may God bless you and your loved ones now and forever.

Your affectionate brother,

(Signed) HEBER J. GRANT.

At the grave of President Joseph F. Smith I read a poem entitled "A Real Man" and I expressed there the hope that I might live to be like Joseph F. Smith. I read at the grave the poem by Eliza R. Snow, written for the Prophet Joseph Smith. "He was beloved, beloved by all."† The prayer that I had in my heart, the desire that I had to follow in the footsteps of this man of God, who presided over us with so much inspiration, with so much devotion, with so much integrity to God and to his fellow-men, the desire that I might be like him, is still in my heart. I pray God to bless his memory. I pray God to bless his wives and his children, that they may emulate his most wonderful and splendid example. I bear witness to you that from my early childhood days, when I could not thoroughly understand and comprehend the teachings of the gospel, that I have had my very being thrilled, and tears have rolled down my cheeks, under the inspiration of the living God, as I have listened to Joseph F. Smith when preaching the gospel. I believe that Joseph F. Smith and his son Hyrum M. Smith, more than any other men to whom I have listened, who were born in the Church of Christ in our day, were the greatest preachers of righteousness. I know that whenever I heard that Joseph F. Smith was going to speak in one of the wards, that time and time again as a young man I have left my own ward and gone to listen

*See this Conference Report, p. 15.

†See *ibid*, hymn 303, p. 16.

to him, because he always filled my being and lifted me up as I listened to him proclaim the gospel of Jesus Christ. I bear witness that he was one of the greatest prophets of God that has ever lived; that God was with him from the day that he went forth as a little boy of fifteen years of age, to proclaim the gospel of Jesus Christ in the Hawaiian Islands, until the day when, after giving sixty-five years of his life to the work of God, he closed his earthly career.

May God bless each and all of us who have a knowledge of the divinity of the work in which we are engaged, and may we be faithful to the end as our prophet was, our beloved leader who has left us, Joseph F. Smith, is my prayer, and I ask it in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

PROVIDENCE IS OVER ALL.

When dark and drear the skies appear,
And doubt and dread would thee enthrall,
Look up, nor fear, the day is near,
And Providence is over all.
From heaven above, His light and love,
God giveth freely when we call.
Our utmost need is oft decreed,
And Providence is over all.

With jealous zeal God guards our weal,
And lifts our wayward thoughts above;
When storms assail life's bark so frail,
We seek the haven of His love.
And when our eyes transcend the skies
His gracious purpose is complete,
No more the night distracts our sight—
The clouds are all beneath our feet.

The direst woe that mortals know
Can ne'er the honest heart appall
Who holds the trust—that God is just,
And Providence is over all.
Should foes increase to mar our peace,
Frustrated all their plans shall fall.
Our utmost need is oft decreed,
And Providence is over all.

—Emily Hill Woodmansee.

UPHOLD THE RIGHT

Uphold the right, though fierce the fight,
And powerful the foe,
And freedom's friend, her cause defend,
Nor fear nor favor show.
No coward can be called a man,
No friend will friends betray;
Who will be free, alert must be;
Indifference will not pay.

Note how they toil whose aim is spoil,
Who plundering plots devise;
Yet time will teach that fools o'erreach
The mark and lose the prize.
Can justice deign to wrong maintain,
Whoever wills it so?
Can honor mate with treacherous hate?
Can figs on thistles grow?

Dare to be true, and hopeful, too;
 Be watchful, brave and shrewd.
 Weigh every act; be wise, in fact,
 To serve the general good.
 Nor basely yield, nor quit the field—
 Important is the fray;
 Scorn to recede, there is no need
 To give our rights away.

Left-handed fraud let those applaud
 Who would by fraud prevail:
 In freedom's name, contest their claim,
 Use no such word as fail;
 Honor we must each sacred trust,
 And rightful zeal display;
 Our part fulfill, then come what will,
 High heaven will clear the way.

—Emily Hill Woodmansee.

FROM "THEIR YESTERDAYS."

"If the men of a race will perfect the manhood strength of the race; if they will exalt their manhood power; if they will fulfill the mission of life by perfecting and producing ever more perfect lives; if they will endeavor to contribute to the ages to come stronger, better, men than themselves; why, the work of the world will be done even as the plant produces its flowers and fruit, the work of the world will be done. In the exaltation of Life is the remedy for the evils that threaten the race. The reformations that men are always attempting in the social, religious, political, and industrial world are but attempts to change the flavor or quality of the fruit when it is ripening on the tree. The true remedy lies in the life of the tree; in the soil from which it springs; in the source from which the fruit derives its quality and flavor. In the appreciation of Life, in the passion of Life, in the production of Life, in the perfection of Life, in the exaltation of Life, is the salvation of human kind. For this, and this alone, man has right to live—has right to his place and part in Life."—Harold Bell Wright.

A REAL MAN.

Men are of two kinds, and he
 Was of the kind I'd like to be.
 Some preach their virtues, and a few
 Express their lives by what they do.
 That sort was he. No flowery phrase
 Or glibly spoken words of praise
 Won friends for him. He wasn't cheap
 Or shallow, but his course ran deep,
 And it was pure. You know the kind.
 Not many in a life you find,
 Whose deeds outrun their words so far
 That more than what they seem they are.

There are two kinds of lies as well:
 The kind you live, the ones you tell.
 Back through his years from age to youth
 He never acted one untruth.
 Out in the open light he fought
 And didn't care what others thought
 Nor what they said about his fight
 If he believed that he was right.
 The only deeds he ever hid
 Were acts of kindness that he did.

GENERAL CONFERENCE.

What speech he had was plain and blunt.
 His was an unembellished front.
 Yet children loved him; babe and boy
 Played with the strength he could employ,
 Without one fear, and they are fleet
 To sense injustice and deceit.
 No back door gossip linked his name
 With any shady tale of shame.
 He did not have to compromise
 With evil-doers, shrewd and wise,
 And let them ply their vicious trade
 Because of some past escapade.

Men are of two kinds, and he
 Was of the kind I'd like to be.
 No door at which he ever knocked
 Against his manly form was locked;
 If ever man on earth was free
 And independent, it was he.
 No broken pledge lost him respect,
 He met all men with head erect;
 And when he passed I think there went
 A soul to yonder firmament
 So white, so splendid and so fine
 It came complete to God's design.

Edgar A. Guest.

HYMN NO. 303.

Thou dost not weep to weep alone;
 The broad bereavement seems to fall
 Unheeded and unfelt by none,
 He was beloved, beloved by all.

But lo! what joy salutes our grief!
 Bright rainbows crown the tearful gloom,
 Hope, hope eternal, brings relief;
 Faith sounds a triumph o'er the tomb.

It soothes our sorrow, says to thee,
 The Lord in chastening comes to bless:
 God is thy God, and He will be
 A father to the fatherless.

'Tis well with the departed one;
 His heaven-lit lamp was shining bright,
 And when his mortal day went down,
 His spirit fled where reigns no night.

'Tis meet to die as he has died,
 He smiled amid death's conquered gloom,
 While angels waited by his side,
 To bear a kindred spirit home.

Vain are the trophies wealth can give!
 His memory needs no sculptor's art;
 He's left a name—his virtues live,
 'Graved on the tablets of the heart.—Eliza R. Snow.

The choir and congregation sang:

"How firm a foundation, ye Saints of the Lord,
 Is laid for your faith in his excellent word."

PRESIDENT ANTHON H. LUND

I rejoice this morning in seeing this great assemblage of Latter-day Saints and so many of the priesthood represented as are before me and around me here. What a marvelous work this is! Seeing the voting by quorums of the priesthood, I thought of the wonderful organization of the priesthood.

GOD'S MARVELOUS WORK AND A WONDER.

It brought to my mind the revelation given to the Prophet Joseph Smith, long before there was any one in the Church, in section four of the Doctrine and Covenants, in which the Lord said he was about to bring forth a marvelous and wonderful work. This has indeed been accomplished. The Prophet Joseph was indeed a man and prophet of God, and proved this both by his prophecies, by his teachings and by his life, and his successors followed him with great devotion to this great work.

THE COURAGE OF BRIGHAM YOUNG.

Today, the first of June, is the anniversary of the birth of President Brigham Young. The Lord had a great work for him. He was indeed a Moses to lead his people away from persecution and oppression, into the wilderness. What sublime faith those men, the pioneers, showed in following him! They did not know where they were going. They did not know what was before them, but they had confidence in their leader, and knowing he was appointed of God to lead them, they followed him.

When they entered these valleys the prospect was not very encouraging, and several of them thought it was better to go on to Oregon or California, or to places where there were already cultivated lands and an assurance that people were able to make a living. But their misgivings did not influence President Young, for he knew that this was the place; he said so, and on the spot where the temple stands today, he said, "Here we will erect a temple to our God." President Brigham Young proved to be a courageous man. He was not afraid of the outlook. The Lord had pointed out to him that this would be the gathering place of the Saints.

TRIBUTE TO PRESIDENT JOSEPH F. SMITH.

We have heard President Grant speak about Brother John Taylor, about Brother Woodruff, and Brother Lorenzo Snow, and we have for some time looked forward to a day on which speeches should be made in memory of the prophet Joseph F. Smith. He was indeed loved by all. He was a great man. He was a great preacher of righteousness. How often have I sat listening to his voice and rejoiced in the truths that he put forth, the encouraging words he spoke and the words of warning he gave unto the people! Take a view of his life. God had given him a strong and abiding faith. He never wavered. As early as fifteen years he was called to go to a land where much of the blood of Israel was

found. The four years he spent there were not years perhaps like many of us would have liked, but he looked upon them with joy and thankfulness, for he loved the people among whom he labored. They loved him, and though they were poor and he was poor also, still those years were blessed years to him and to that people.

President Smith was a dutiful child to his mother. He loved her with the greatest love. He often alluded to her and to the inestimable blessing that she had been to him. She taught him to read, she helped him in his studies, and her memory was ever kept by him in the deepest reverence. He liked to talk about her, and as he was a dutiful and loving child himself, when he had children he was a loving father and a loving husband. He loved the little ones, even those not belonging to his family, and I have noticed how little children would be drawn to him even if they were perfect strangers. There was an atmosphere about him that gave them confidence, so that they were not afraid to come and have him take them up in his arms.

I have walked with him in the street and nearly every few steps he would meet acquaintances and have to stop and shake hands with them. He was loved by those who knew him. He never forgot his friends, even if he had not seen them for many years. His life was an exemplary one.

Ever since I remember anything about him he was to me the type of a true Latter-day Saint; and when I got more intimately connected with him I saw, every day, more and more evidence of his being just what I had imagined him to be. He was a true Latter-day Saint. He loved the gospel. He loved to bear his testimony that Jesus was the Redeemer and Savior of the world. He bore testimony to the truth of the gospel, and to the divinity of the mission of Joseph Smith, and his testimony always strengthened the faith of those who listened to him.

THE CHURCH FREED OF DEBT.

President Smith was a good manager of the affairs of the Church. When his administration began, the Church was owing nearly a million dollars of bonds. President Smith was a man that did not like to be in debt, and as he felt in this regard himself, so he felt for the Church, and he put forth all his energy that the Church might get out of the bondage of debt. It took about five years to do this, because so many other responsibilities had to be met, but I remember one day in the old office building how he rejoiced when we made a bon-fire of bonds that called for a million of dollars, for we felt, now is the Church free from debt.

AN EPOCH OF CHURCH BUILDINGS.

During the administration of President Smith there was an epoch of building meetinghouses and stake houses, ward tithing offices, academies and temples. More has been done during these years in this regard than ever before, not only at home, but abroad; meeting houses have been erected in the missions of the United States, England, Scandinavia, and on the islands of the sea, and the people rejoice in having places of their own where they can go and worship God. When we

travel here, at home, we are pleased to see these beautiful meetinghouses that have been erected, and very few have been built without help by the Trustee-in-Trust. And the work of building meetinghouses continues.

A FAITH-PROMOTING PREACHER OF RIGHTEOUSNESS.

President Smith was a spiritual-minded man, and he was well versed in all things pertaining to the priesthood, to temple work and to the different activities of the Church. Before I came into the presidency I have often gone to him and asked for his advice and counsel, and I always found it to be the very best that could be given; and when I was called to be his counselor I felt indeed humble, and wondered how I could perform such an office to a man like him. During the seventeen years that we sat at the council table together, I admired the man more and more. I saw how true he was to his professions, how true he was to the interests of the Church, how true to his brethren and the Saints in general.

When a case came before him to judge, he and his counselors would talk it over and give it their careful consideration until they came to the same conclusion. We felt indeed that he was a man of God, a man raised up to perform a wonderful work. We all miss Brother Joseph F. Smith. We loved him. We knew that he was a fearless man. When it came to anything pertaining to the Church, whatever he thought was for the best good of the work, he was not afraid to undertake it. In reflecting upon his life, we see many things that are faith-promoting, and showing that the Lord's hand was with him, protecting him and giving him success in his labors.

May the Lord bless his families and his children, that they may emulate the noble example that he has set them, and may we all, brethren and sisters, remember what he has done, may his memory remain green in our minds, and may we carry out that which he worked for so earnestly all his life.

PRESIDENT HEBER J. GRANT WILL KEEP HIS PLEDGES.

President Grant has spoken to us this morning. He has told us what he intends to do, and I know he will carry it out, because he has always kept the pledges he has made; so I do not think that now, as president of the Church, he will go back upon such conduct. The Lord will bless him. There is a great work for him to do, to which the Lord has called him, and God will give him wisdom and strength to accomplish it and enable him to carry the great responsibility that the office imposes upon him.

May the Lord bless President Grant, that he may have joy in his labor, that his administration may be a prosperous one for the Latter-day Saints, I ask in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

The Tabernacle Choir sang: by Patriarch George L. Farrell, of the Cache Stake of Zion.
"Come Unto Me."

Conference adjourned until 2 o'clock p. m.

The benediction was pronounced

OVERFLOW MEETING.

An overflow meeting was held in the Assembly Hall, Sunday morning, June 1, 10:45 o'clock, presided over by President Seymour B. Young, of the First Council of Seventy.

The music was furnished by the Latter-day Saints University students choir, under the direction of B. Cecil Gates.

The choir and congregation sang: "How firm a foundation, ye Saints of the Lord, is laid for your faith in his excellent word."

Prayer was offered by Elder Levi Edgar Young of the First Council of Seventy.

The choir sang: "I put my trust in thee."

ELDER SEYMOUR B. YOUNG (Of the First Council of Seventy.)

My brethren, sisters, friends, and strangers—We bid you all welcome here to our general conference. We hail this as a very auspicious day for the renewal of the gatherings of our annual conference, which was postponed on account of conditions that were very unpropitious during the regularly appointed time, 6th of April, last.

This is the anniversary of the birthday of President Brigham Young, the great pioneer of this western country. Hence I consider this a very proper day for holding our deferred general annual conference. In the large Tabernacle, we have just completed the grand ceremony of sustaining by the votes of the presiding quorums of the priesthood the general authorities of the Church. They were sustained by a rising vote of the quorums of the priesthood, separated and seated in

different portions of the tabernacle; then followed the sustaining vote of the entire congregation.

It is suggested that we now give you the same privilege, of rising when you cast your vote sustaining the general authorities of the Church. This is the 89th annual conference of the Church.

It is proposed that we sustain Heber J. Grant as Prophet, Seer and Revelator, and President of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

All arise, and all who favor this proposition will signify it by raising the right hand. (Unanimous vote.)

The other general authorities of the Church were then presented and sustained in like manner, and as presented in the assembly at the Tabernacle.

ELDER B. H. ROBERTS

(Of the First Council of Seventy.)

When the king of England dies, a herald is sent out to make the announcement, which he does in this form: "The King is dead. Long live the King." No sooner is the announcement made that the king is dead than it is followed by the other sentence, Long live the king. It is an announcement which means that though the king has just died, yet England has not been an instant without a ruler. In one breath the passing of one monarch is made known, and the all hail given to his immediate successor. That is the theory of the British constitution, that while kings may come and go, the British sovereign always is, and there is no lapse in succession to the throne. In some such way that is true of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints also. From the time it was organized by divine ap-

pointment of God there has never been a moment when there has not been a President of the Church of Jesus Christ in the earth. And although presidents may come and go in the future, my faith is that there will never be a time when there is not an immediate successor in the presidency. The constitution of the Church makes this provision.

The presiding authority in the Church consists of three high priests, who constitute the presidency of the high priesthood of the Church, and also the presidency of the Church. They are chosen, upheld and sustained by the priesthood of the Church, and also by all the congregations of the Church, for all things must be done by common consent in the Church, and no officer in the Church, from the presidency thereof down to the humblest branch president in the Church can hold his place and exercise the function of his office otherwise than by the consent of the body of people over whom he is called to preside. There is none exempt from this constitutional regulation of the Church. It was so from the beginning; for although the Prophet Joseph Smith had received the keys of the holy priesthood, and God had communicated to him his mind and his will, yet when it came to the organization of the Church, and the time had arrived for him to exercise the authority which God had given him over others, he was informed that he must call the brethren and sisters together who had been baptized, and obtain their consent to organize the Church. This great question was submitted to that little band of people, the organization being effected, of course, by six members in order to comply with the law of the State of New York re-

specting religious organizations. The question was submitted to them, and they voted upon it, and they sustained Joseph Smith as the first elder and Oliver Cowdery as the second elder of the Church, and thus this Church by divine appointment of officers and their being sustained by the membership of the Church, was brought into existence —this great institution now known as the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Today we are repeating the things that were done from the commencement, and are privileged to exercise the same right in saying who it is that we will accept from our hearts to be the general authorities of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

We stand at the point where one presidency leaves us, and another is inaugurated. I think it is fitting that we should not only have our minds drawn out towards the man who is taking on new responsibilities, viz., President Heber J. Grant, but that we should also remember in loving kindness the faithful labors of him who, so short a time ago, was the President, and very worthily the President of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, viz., President Joseph F. Smith. Those of us who were in close association with him and who knew him and worked with him, cannot, I think, look upon this inauguration of a new president without calling to mind the devotion, the fidelity, and the splendid administrative abilities of Joseph F. Smith, son of Hyrum Smith, the Patriarch of the Church, the second presiding Patriarch of the Church, succeeding the father of the Prophet Joseph, who was the first presiding Patriarch of the Church. This man Hyrum Smith was a man

upon whom the Lord conferred very splendid and very great blessings, especially in regard to his posterity. Blessings and promises that had been previously pronounced upon the head of Oliver Cowdery were also gathered up and placed upon the head of Hyrum Smith and his posterity after him. And truly the blessing has been realized in the posterity of Hyrum Smith, for I think there is no other man in the Church from the beginning until now who has been more abundantly blessed in his posterity than has Hyrum Smith. He was blessed in his two sons, the late Patriarch John Smith, who for so many years was a prominent figure in our community, and known throughout the Church, many thousands of the Saints receiving patriarchal blessings under his hands. Hyrum Smith was likewise blessed, and splendidly blessed, in the person of his great son Joseph F. Smith, who for so many years devoted himself to the work of the ministry in the days of his youth, and finally was brought into the quorum of the Twelve Apostles, while yet a young man, which position he held for many years. At the inauguration of the administration of President John Taylor he became a counselor to President Taylor. He sustained the same position to President Wilford Woodruff, and then to President Lorenzo Snow; and finally he came to the presidency himself, and held that position for more than seventeen years. And under his administration the Church was truly and greatly blessed, blessed not only by the wisdom that was manifested in his counsels, but also blessed by the example of his righteous life. So that when he passed away he passed away in honor and much be-

loved by the people. The blessing pronounced upon the head of Hyrum Smith is not only manifested in the person of John Smith, the Patriarch, and President Joseph F. Smith, but from the loins of President Smith there came forth men and women who were highly honored in the community, and who have found place for ministry in the Church. Two of his sons have been brought into the apostolate of the Church, faithful men. One of them, Elder Hyrum M. Smith, as you of course recall, passing away about a year or more ago; but he left a name and a fame that is honored in Israel. I am glad to say that President Smith is still honored by one of his sons being sustained this day as one of the Twelve Apostles. President Smith, then, was honored in his life; and worthily represented the second Presiding Patriarch in the Church; and this succession of righteous men in the family of Hyrum Smith shows that the blessings of the Lord pronounced upon the heads of his servants are not mere words, but represent substance, represent realities. So God has magnified this family in the Church, and has especially honored this branch of it as he promised to do in one of the revelations now extant in the Book of Doctrine and Covenants.

My brethren and sisters, it would not be proper for me to occupy further of your time, but I just wanted to call your attention to these few things in relation to this day in regard to the incoming administration by your legally taken votes, according to the constitution of the Church which God has established. Of course, however, Heber J. Grant has been the president in reality from the time that President Smith

passed away, for when the first presiding quorum of the Church for any cause is disrupted and goes out of existence, the man holding the authority stands in the second quorum, of the Church, *viz.*, the President of the quorum of the Twelve, and the authority to act is his until the Church can be assembled, as we are now assembled, and proceed with the organization as it has been done today.

I congratulate the Church upon the noble men who have become God's representatives as the presidency of his Church in this dispensation. We this day inaugurate the seventh president of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints; they represent a line of men who for simplicity of life and character, for greatness of soul, for bigness of faith, for fidelity to the trust which God and the Church imposed in them, stand unparalleled in the religious history of the world. Thank God, not only for a prophet, but for all our prophets, the presidents of the Church, in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

ELDER J. GOLDEN KIMBALL

(Of the First Council of Seventy.)

As stated, by President Seymour B. Young, it is desired that the First Council of the Seventy speak in memory of President Joseph F. Smith. I have known President Smith from my early youth, and have listened to his teachings, as an apostle and as the president of the Church during the greater part of my life.

I remember, in the early days of my youth, of the people of this Church looking forward hopefully when the time should come that the prophecy made by the servants of God would be fulfilled, *viz.*: that

President Joseph F. Smith would become the President of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. I can think of no man who has been president of the Church, who has had greater opportunities and advantages than he has had. President Smith was chosen and ordained an apostle in his youth. He was favored, as I remember it, by being sent on a mission to the Hawaiian Islands, when he was 15 years old. He was hedged about and privileged in associating with great men, and his life and labors were in the service of the Lord, as a special witness and an apostle of Jesus Christ. President Smith was trained, instructed, and prepared for this great appointment as prophet, seer and revelator by the greatest men who ever lived, in my judgment, in the history of the world.

I am proud of the fact that I am a natural born heir, and was given birth in this land of liberty and freedom. We are not called upon to cry out, "All hail to the king." I thank God, I belong to a Church which is the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. It does not belong to President Joseph F. Smith, and he made no such claim, but it belongs to God the Father, and to his Son, Jesus Christ. There are no such things as earthly kings in Christ's Church. There never will be any king-men in Christ's Church. For when his disciples came to him, he tried to teach them the great lesson: whosoever will be greatest among you, let him be servant of all; and when these same apostles asked the Savior, "Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?" he called a little child to him and said: "Except ye be converted, and become as little chil-

dren ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven." Joseph F. Smith was like that. He was a man of great integrity. Few men had greater integrity or greater faith. He loved God with all his heart, with all his soul, and with all his might and that is all a man can do.

Time will not permit me to say more. I have always honored and respected and sustained President Joseph F. Smith, and I am glad of it. But I discovered, in the time that I have labored in the Church, that he was human just like the rest of us. I want to learn the lesson, *Cursed be the men who trust in man.* You want to learn that lesson, if you are to be tested and meet difficulties, and you will not stumble and lose the faith. I place my trust in God, the eternal Father, and it is my business to get a clear and true conception of God, and of Jesus Christ, and to realize that these men whom we have sustained are servants of the people: they are servants of God, and we sustain them, and we uphold them. If there were no people, there would be no need of a Church, so that we all say—at least I do—God save the people. God bless you. Amen.

ELDER RULON S. WELLS

(Of the First Council of Seventy.)

It is only natural that I should greatly love President Joseph F. Smith. I imbibed it from my father. He was very closely associated with my father, and my father with him in the ministry, in laboring in the house of the Lord and otherwise in the building up of the Church and kingdom of God on the earth. From my earliest boyhood I have always loved Joseph F. Smith, and

when his name was first presented no one voted more heartily than I did to sustain him as the prophet, seer and revelator of the Church and the president of it in all the world. And throughout my life I have been more or less familiar with his labors and ministry. But I will not undertake, my brethren and sisters, in the few moments that are allotted to me to speak of his great work among the children of men, but I think more of those particular labors that have had a direct influence and bearing upon me and upon my life, for I can truly say that there is no man in the Church that has exerted a greater and more powerful influence over me in my life than Joseph F. Smith. No man has so moved me from the bottom of my soul as he has done. Tears have welled up in my eyes, and my heart has been filled with joy and with the testimony of the truth under the influence of the Spirit of the Lord as it has been manifest in this great man. I have listened to him when it seemed to me that God was speaking to me direct, and the words he spoke sank so deeply into my heart that I have wondered why it was that all who heard him upon that occasion did not feel and know that the gospel is true, that they who heard it as it was proclaimed by this great man and restored from heaven through the instrumentality of his illustrious uncle, the Prophet Joseph Smith, were not thoroughly converted and convinced as to the truth of it. The occasion to which I now refer was a funeral service held in honor of a dearly loved sister of mine, Emma Wells, who died in the year, 1877. He was the speaker upon that occasion. He spoke forth the words

of eternal life. He explained the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ. There were many there, kindred and friends and outsiders, non-members of the Church, a goodly number; and I marveled that any one could go from that service without being convinced in their souls that he was a servant of God, and that he spoke the truth as it had been revealed from heaven. It was the plan of life and salvation, the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ as it has been restored in its purity. Upon various occasions he has thus filled my soul with the testimony of the truth and has exerted a power and influence over me which I hope will always remain with me.

When I think of the influence his ministry has had upon me and upon my life, and then contemplate his extensive labors in this community, I have wondered how many thousands have been thus filled with joy and with the testimony of the truth. And if it be true that when a man labors all his life and succeeds in saving but one soul, great will be his joy with that soul in the kingdom of our Father, then what must be in store for this great man as he goes back into the kingdom of his Father, having labored nearly all his life in the ministry and brought so many souls unto the knowledge of the truth. I praise God for having sent such a noble spirit into the world. I thank him for his noble life, for his worthy example in this community. I thank the Lord for his labors among the people, for great good has been the results. I honor his memory today and join my brethren in tribute to this true servant of God for whom I have always had unbounded love and admiration. May his children, who have

been so blessed and favored of the Lord in being born of such goodly parents, continue to enjoy the blessings pronounced upon the posterity of their martyred ancestor, Hyrum Smith, the Patriarch, is my prayer in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

JOS. W. McMURRIN

(Of the First Council of Seventy.)

We have but one theme, my brethren and sisters, to dwell upon this morning. We were instructed by President Heber J. Grant, when we were appointed to come to this meeting, to devote our time and the remarks that we made to the memory of President Joseph F. Smith. I don't know just how my fellow laborers feel in approaching a task of this character. I feel that it is impossible for me to say anything quite up to the standard of the man.

Joseph F. Smith, in my feelings, is one of the greatest men, if not the greatest man, with whom I have ever been acquainted. I have never been in his presence without being impressed with the feeling that he was indeed a servant of the living God, and that he was a prophet of the Lord. Thirty-eight years ago, when I was laboring as a boy missionary afar off, a brother related to me the prophecy that has been referred to by Elder J. Golden Kimball, that was delivered in the Ogden tabernacle forty or fifty years ago. I do not know just how long ago. President Woodruff declared in that prophecy that the time would come when Joseph F. Smith would stand as the mouthpiece of God. In making the declaration he invited the fathers and mothers in the congregation to

write down the prediction, that their children after the parents present were dead and gone, might read and know that God had spoken in relation to the future life of Joseph F. Smith. We are all witnesses to the fulfilment of the inspired prophecy. While listening to what has been said in this meeting, I have been impressed in much the same way as my brother, Elder Rulon S. Wells, has just stated. I have often felt, when listening to words spoken by President Joseph F. Smith, that the very word of God was being declared, and that the inspiration and power of the Holy Ghost was resting upon the mouthpiece of God in a most remarkable and unusual manner.

I had the very great pleasure, just about two years ago, of being one of a party invited by President Joseph F. Smith to make a journey to St. George. The brethren and sisters forming the party visited one line of settlements in going to St. George, and another line of settlements in returning to Salt Lake City. President Joseph F. Smith spoke in all of the meetings that were held, both going and returning, and notwithstanding the fact that he was under bodily ailment at the time, the spirit of his great calling rested upon him most marvelously, and he expounded the doctrines of the everlasting gospel in very great clearness. The hearts of thousands of people were made glad through his inspired teachings and testimony.

I always felt in his presence that I was indeed in the presence of God's anointed servant, and always rejoiced in knowing that he was a man filled with prophetic power; and, above all else, that he was a

man who had consecrated to the very uttermost his time, and talents, to the upbuilding of the kingdom of God.

I believe that President Joseph F. Smith was just as true to the work of God, just as true to the Prophet Joseph Smith, just as true to his brethren in the holy priesthood as any man who ever lived. I believe that President Joseph F. Smith accepted the wonderful mission of the Lord Jesus Christ, and understood that he was to be saved through the atoning blood of the Redeemer of the world by obedience to the doctrines of the gospel, just as fully and completely as any man that ever lived. President Joseph F. Smith, in my judgment, gave his time, and his thought, and his ability in the most unselfish manner for the benefit and blessing of the Latter-day Saints, and for the advancement of the work of God. I thank God that it was my privilege occasionally to be in his presence. I am grateful for the words of blessing that he has spoken to me individually. I thank the Lord for the impressions that have been made upon me by his splendid life. I believe those impressions are of an indelible character, and that they will be beneficial to me, and be a blessing to me as long as I live in mortality.

I also thank God for the splendid family of President Joseph F. Smith. I have been very happy in my association with some of his boys, and know them to be true men. I am not closely acquainted with all of his sons. I believe, from what I know of them that they are all true men; I have had close companionship with Hyrum M. Smith, with Joseph Fielding,

Smith, with David A. Smith, with E. Wesley Smith. I am proud of their acquaintance. There are no better men in my judgment to be found among the people of the Latter-day Saints.

God bless the family of our late President, and may the truth of the gospel of Jesus Christ, that was always the greatest thing in the thought of President Smith, be the greatest thing in the affections of his sons and daughters, and their children, and their generations after them for ever and ever.

My brethren and sisters, let us all be faithful. By good lives we can all honor our fathers. We have all had godly fathers, fathers that have been true to the work of God and to the great founders chosen to introduce it, they have ever been willing to lay down their lives if need be for the work revealed in this dispensation. I hope that not only the family of our great president will honor forever the name of their distinguished sire, but that we will all honor our good fathers, and our good mothers, and that we may all recognize and be sure of the fact that we are also enlisted in the cause of Christ, and that we will give to the full, allegiance to the Master.

We are all called to be expounders of the faith of the gospel that made the men who have been our leaders as great and noble as they were. It was the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ, and living closely to the principles of that gospel, and consecrating their time and service to the advancement of the work of God, that made them all mighty. God help every one of us to be true and steadfast to the same faith, that we also, when we have finished the race we are run-

ning, may have companionship with the great leader of Israel whose memory we honor this day. I pray the blessings of God upon every one in this congregation, in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

ELDER CHARLES H. HART

(Of the First Council of Seventy).

It is fitting and proper that this special conference should be convened on the 1st day of June, the 89th anniversary of the holding of the first conference ever held by this Church.

Of course, none of you will understand that Brother Roberts, in using the beautiful and appropriate illustration that he did in the opening of his remarks, meant to uphold kingcraft, because, as most of you know, Brother Roberts has just spent many months at the front, willing to go "over the top," in the contest of democracy against autocracy; but he meant to point out that the Church could say, as Tennyson has his brook say, that "Men may come and men may go, but I go on forever." And it is a very appropriate thing that as men go and men come in these leading positions that we should pause briefly to pay a just tribute to the memory of those who have gone.

I feel it a great honor to say a few words in commemoration of that great character, Joseph F. Smith, the greatest preacher of righteousness, in my opinion, of this dispensation. I have been with his son Hyrum very much, and I think it is appropriate, in view of his recent demise, to mention his name. I have heard him deliver more than fifty sermons in succession, and after each of which I could say "that indeed is worthy of

an apostle of our Lord and Savior." And yet the training of his father was such that I always placed his father first as a great preacher of righteousness.

I may be pardoned if I relate a personal incident which will illustrate the effect of his preaching and his spirit upon myself. Under peculiar circumstances, I came into a meeting at Logan at which he spoke and at which he presided. I had taken a long trip by team through the mountains and held many meetings. It had taken me through the mountains from Cache county to Rich county, from thence to Bear Lake county, and from thence to Wyoming and back to Gem Valley, as they call it now, and through Oneida county. We had held many meetings, and it was cold and there was much loss of sleep and much fatigue, so that when I came into that meeting I was thoroughly exhausted both in body and mind, and it was only by force of circumstances that I was induced to go into his company and the company of the Saints. But under the inspiration of his speaking as the Spirit of God seemed to flow from him to his audience and back again to him, the result upon me was such that at the close of the meeting I was as free from fatigue and weariness as I ever was in my life. I paid special attention to my condition, and could not detect the slightest weariness either in body or in mind. A veteran newspaper reporter who was in attendance to report the speaking, became so absorbed that he failed to take any notes of the inspired talk of President Smith.

I think that the Prophet Joseph F. Smith, had more elements of greatness in him than any other

man that it has been my privilege to know. He was great in a larger number of ways than any other man I ever knew. He was great in courage, and stern in righteousness, and yet there was a rare combination of kindness, meekness and gentleness. He was as kind and loving as a child. In fact it could be said of him that he had "the heart of childhood taken up and matured in the power of manhood." No man would have met death more willingly, in my judgment, for his convictions. He was a man great in his fidelity to his people and to the truth, and great in his testimony of the prophetic calling of the Prophet Joseph and of the divine mission of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. He had elements of strength so combined that he was indeed a truly great man; the favor of God was upon him. I think he exemplified more than any other man I ever knew the fulfilment of the scriptural injunction and promise to "seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness," and all other things should be added thereto.

Here are some lines that I think of, in connection with the life and character and ministry of our late lamented Prophet:

"He was one who never turned his back,

But marched breast forward;
Never doubted clouds would break;
Never dreamed, though right were worsted,

Wrong would triumph.

He held, we fall to rise, are baffled
To fight better, sleep to wake."

He was such a man as Holland describes or asks for when he exclaims:

"God give us men. The time demands
Strong minds, great hearts, true faith
and willing hands;

Men whom the lust of office does
not kill;
Men whom the spoils of office can-
not buy;
Men who possess opinions and a will;
Men who have honor; men who will
not lie,
Men who can stand before a dema-
gogue
And damn his treacherous flatteries
without winking;
Tall men, sun crowned, who live
above the fog
In public duty and private thinking!"

I pray the Lord to bless the memory of President Joseph F. Smith and his posterity. His works will live after him. He has left an impression upon the Church that will be enduring. I had the deepest love and the greatest admiration for him during his life, and I regret that I did not let him know at least a fractional part of the love and admiration I had for him and his ministry and the things he accomplished. May the Lord bless his memory and bless us that we may follow the good example he set for us, I pray in the name of Jesus. Amen.

ELDER LEVI EDGAR YOUNG (Of the First Council of Seventy).

I bear you my testimony, my brethren and sisters, that all that has been said this day in reference to the character of President Joseph F. Smith is quite true.

I look upon a man as great when he stands for great principles; and that is the standard by which we should judge people. When people stand for principle, and know by their faith in God that the principle is true, it is always a mark of true greatness; and when a man links up his life with God, becomes one with God, and he and God are friends, you may depend upon it you have the truest standard of greatness that can be possibly created.

The glorious thing to me in the life of President Joseph F. Smith was not only his wonderful strength of character, his true conception of life, his splendid idealism of religion and his great faith in God; but his living the divine injunction "unless ye can become as a little child ye cannot enter the kingdom of heaven." He was great in his power to understand life and to see God. His faith was one of the most sublime things I ever knew. He never compromised with wrong or with evil in any form. Man to him is free, but free to do right, not free to do wrong. I remember a statement that he once made concerning the meaning of liberty which I shall never forget. Said he: "Liberty is obedience to just law." That to me is one of the most wonderful ideas concerning liberty and Americanism that I have ever heard. Obedience to law is liberty. What kind of law? Law that is founded on truth. Law that is an expression of God's will to his people. Therefore, he was very democratic. He was very loving of his fellow man. How true it was that he showed his love for God because he loved his fellow men so much. He feared no man. He loved his God, and with his great linking of truth with God's truth, he lived a truly inspiring life. Standing upon the principle of right living, he truly entered the kingdom of heaven. "Unless ye become as a little child, ye cannot know God." To me he was very great, very courageous, very brave, very true, and above all, he was the child of God. He looked up, and with sublime faith made his life divine.

May we see the beauty of his life, the truth of his words, the greatness of his soul, the magnanimity of his spirit, his great relationship to God. Amen.

PREST. SEYMOUR B. YOUNG

(Of the First Council of Seventy.)

I want to thank Brother B. Cecil Gates and those who have been with him in giving us good music today.

I also want to speak in regard to President Joseph F. Smith, as this day has been chosen.

At the funeral of his son, Hyrum M. Smith, just as the family were taking leave of the remains in the Beehive house, I entered the house that morning, and while standing a little way from the bier of our beloved apostle, there came from another room President Joseph F. Smith, the father of the beloved deceased. He saw me and came directly to me, and putting his arms around me drew me to his bosom, and we kissed and embraced each other. And he said, "Seymour, we have been boys together." And when we thus embraced I found that we were both weeping. President Joseph F. Smith has been indeed a remarkable man. He has maintained the love of his people from the beginning of his ministry to the end of his life. I don't believe that he had an enemy in the world, or an enemy that could give any reason for his enmity; because all men saw in Joseph F. Smith, our re-

cent president, a man who stood high in the estimation of humanity, and of God our eternal Father.

President Heber J. Grant has now been sustained by the congregations of the Saints, and by the special quorums of the priesthood, and I beseech for him that love, reverence, and sustaining power that he so well deserves and has so well merited through his life of devotion and faithful labors all the days of his life. For I have known him since the days of Nauvoo, and I say that I have never known better and truer men, than President Joseph F. Smith and President Heber J. Grant. We are all glad today that so noble a man has been chosen by the people and sanctioned by the voice of our heavenly Father to be the President of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. May the Lord add his blessings to you fathers and mothers, boys and girls, friends and strangers, who are here attending our general conference, I pray in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

"We thank thee, O God for a prophet," was sung by the choir and congregation.

Elder Jonathan Golden Kimball offered the benediction.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

President Heber J. Grant, presided in the Tabernacle, and called the congregation to order at 2 o'clock.

The Choir and congregation sang: "Guide us, O thou great Jehovah."

Prayer was offered by Elder Moses Taylor, president of the Summit stake of Zion.

The choir sang: "Hope thou in God," solo by Edna Gothberg.

PRES. CHARLES W. PENROSE

This is a splendid sight, especially to us who sit here on this platform, but the spectacle presented by our congregation this morning, if anything, was still grander because of the order of the seating and the kind of persons assembled, particularly on the lower floor of this building.

THE SOLEMN ASSEMBLY.

It was a unique congregation, what we call in this Church a "solemn assembly" of the holy priesthood, the several authorities of the Church being arranged to sit in their proper places, according to their relationship to each other, in this splendid organization which the Lord has established on the earth, and of the spirit and power attending the congregation, and especially the speakers. No such a scene as that we beheld this morning could be seen in any of the congregations of the various churches in the world, Christian, or heathen, or pagan.

It is something peculiar to the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, and this order of priesthood, as exhibited here this morning in our meeting, is not of man's formation. It is divine and bears the stamp of divinity upon it in its order and in the relationship that exists between these different bodies of the priesthood, all animated by one spirit. Truly we can say, as the apostles of old said: We have one Lord, and one faith and one baptism," and one hope of our calling. "And God hath set in the Church first apostles, secondly prophets, after that helps and governments, and miracles and signs and gifts and blessings and the various authorities, all for the work of the ministry, for the perfecting of the Saints, and for the edifying of the body of Christ, until we all come in unity of the faith to the knowledge of the Son of God," that we may "grow up unto him who is our living head" in all things. I thank God with all my soul today for this glorious privilege of being present and of being associated with the body of men who by uplifted hand recognized the authorities of the Church and voted, without a dissenting sign or manifestation of any kind, to sustain them, being of one heart and one mind and led by one spirit. This is not the first occasion of the kind in which I have participated.

LEADERS OF THE LATTER-DAY DISPENSATION.

We had a splendid discourse from President Grant in relation to the successive presidents that we have had from the beginning of the Church, from the Prophet Joseph Smith down to the present time. I did not have the joy and pleasure of being personally acquainted with the Prophet Joseph Smith, but felt familiar with him because of my association with so many with whom he was acquainted, and who received the priesthood of God under his ordination—under his hands, and also by reading his discourses, accounts of his life and works, and receiving by the power of God a testimony of the fact that he was divinely called to usher in the last dispensation, the dispensation of the fulness of times, in the which as the Lord revealed anciently, he would "gather together in one all

things that are in him, both in the heavens and in the earth," and this is that dispensation. And I received when I was a boy, when I first embraced the gospel, a testimony by the power and gift of the Holy Ghost, and by many signs and tokens and manifestations to me, personally, a knowledge of this great fact—that God has opened the heavens in the latter times and once more communicated with man, and that Jesus, who is the Christ, his beloved Son, also has been engaged in this work under his direction, and this Church, which bears his name, is indeed the Church of Christ, composed of Latter-day Saints instead of former-day Saints. This testimony was given to me, as I have stated, through my obedience to the gospel in an early day, and since that time, I thank the Lord I have had the opportunity of laboring in this great cause, the greatest thing on the earth, a divine Church, set up not only by divine authority but by divine persons and the actual participation in and direction of Jesus of Nazareth, who is the Christ, the Son of the living God and the Savior of the world.

I was present when President John Taylor succeeded to the presidency of the Church, after the death of President Brigham Young. I was well acquainted with him, but I was not in Nauvoo when the mantle of the prophet Joseph fell upon him, as we have heard testified of many times; but I became acquainted with brother Brigham until we became very familiar, and I had great joy in knowing that he loved me as well as that I loved him, that we often had an opportunity of holding converse and that he understood me as well as I, measureably at least, understood him, and I know that he was the proper successor and inheritor to the authority that was placed upon the Prophet Joseph, that he was the rightful president of this Church, and that he conducted this Church under the inspiration of the Almighty. And the great works he accomplished are seen, many of them, in the building up of this State now in the American Union. But when Brother John Taylor succeeded to the presidency I was present, when that splendid assembly, the kind of which we had this morning, was established here, and took part in it, and so when his successor was appointed. I was here present when President Wilford Woodruff was called to be the President of the Church and also Lorenzo Snow and Joseph F. Smith, our beloved apostle and prophet and president who has recently passed away, and I am thankful in my soul today that I am privileged to be here and take part in the installation of President Heber J. Grant as prophet, seer and revelator, and President of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, his authority extending through all the world. And with all my heart I joined with the brethren this morning in lifting up my right hand in token to the heavens that I accepted these men in their several callings as servants of the Most High, holding the authority of the holy priesthood, which is after the order of the Son of God.

MEN CAN DO LITTLE OF THEMSELVES.

I feel as if I could not attempt to add much to the eulogies pronounced upon these great men whose names have been mentioned to us. President Brigham Young, I regarded as one of the most remark-

able men of his time. I was going to say, apart from his calling as the prophet of the Lord, but I do not know that he would have made any great mark in the world but for this calling. For I realize fully the truth of the revelation of God through the Prophet Joseph that the powers of this priesthood, represented here this morning, are "inseparably connected with the powers behind the veil," that alone we are not very mighty; that of ourselves we can do very little; but with those heavenly powers associated with us and we with them, great things have been accomplished and still greater are in progress and will be accomplished. For this is the work of the Lord and it is established in the earth for a direct and divine purpose, and will be accomplished although the means by which it is and will be accomplished may be of themselves not very great or mighty, but the powers behind the veil are with us, not only those great men who performed so wonderful a work before President Grant's coming into the presidency, are with the Lord behind the veil, not only they are with us and thousands of the departed ones who have worked in the ministry, but all the great and the mighty of the ages past are with us, powers of the holy priesthood, held by men of God from the beginning are with us, and in that and the oversight and direction of the Lord Jesus Christ as our living head, we can and will prevail over darkness and error and wickedness and corruption and disorder and confusion, and in the place thereof through this agency will come order and peace and concord and brotherly love and the union and power of mankind when united together by the Holy Spirit from on high. This is being poured out upon those who will obey the principles of the gospel, and the fruits thereof are already being made manifest in the earth, and the time will come when all the predictions of the prophets of old, concerning the establishment of the reign of peace will be fulfilled, but it will come through righteousness, and righteousness through the preaching of the truth, the word of God, by the power of God, in the authority of God.

CONCERNING PRESIDENT JOSEPH F. SMITH.

I had the pleasure of laboring under the direction of those great men who were talked about this morning, President Taylor, President Woodruff, President Lorenzo Snow, and President Joseph F. Smith. When we had finished our voting we sang the song: "How firm a 'foun'-dation, ye Saints of the Lord, is laid for your faith in his excellent word. What more can he say than to you He hath said?" I thought, when President Grant sat down, if I was called upon to speak, as he announced that his counselors would have something to say, and after Brother Lund had finished his excellent remarks, what more could I say than to you these have said. I felt very much as a witness did, when called into court to give testimony on a certain case, and had been preceded by a man who told what he knew and who said: "Your Honor, I says as he says," and that was all he coul' tell. I was very much in the same condition, but I know that would not suffice, so here this afternoon I take pride and pleasure in adding my testimony to the remarks made here this morning concerning each one of the presidents of the Church of

Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, from the time of the Prophet Joseph down to the decease of our beloved Brother Joseph F. Smith. I loved him with all my heart, and I am always glad to know that he loved me.

From the first time we met, we felt as though we were kindred spirits. The first time I met him was about 59 years ago, in Liverpool, and when we struck hands and were introduced to each other our hearts went with our hands, and we have always loved each other from that time to the time that he departed; my love remains and abides in my heart, and I am proud of having been associated with him in the ministry. It was through him, that I was called to the apostleship, and ordained under his hands, and also afterwards to be one of his counselors in the First Presidency. In this, I had opportunities of knowing the kind of a man he was and is. He was one of the grand men of the age. He was great in all things he undertook. He had failings, no doubt, like others had, but they were not very manifest. He was a great man in the ministry. He was, indeed, as was pronounced upon his head this morning, a preacher of righteousness and he was a liver of righteousness. He was exemplary in all his ways, in public and in private, and he had a kind heart as well as a strong mind. In all things that came under his notice and his direction he was strong and mighty, not only spiritually, but in what we call temporal things his judgment was splendid. He was accurate. He was awake and alive to his duties. He loved to perform them faithfully and he did so. I am sure that his labors were acceptable unto God, and when "the books are opened and men are judged out of the things written in the books, according to their works," he will stand in the front rank, and he will shine in the fulness of the celestial glory, with the sons of God who minister before the Most High.

God bless his family, those whom he has left to follow in his footsteps. He had a splendid family, men and women that ought to be honored, and will be in Israel all their days and throughout all their generations. They will be prospered in all things; the Lord will be with them, and the influence of the great man who stands as a patriarch at their head will be upon them.

THE MANTLE OF JOSEPH RESTING UPON HEBER.

I believe in the influence of those who hold the priesthood behind the veil. The testimony given concerning the falling of the mantle of Joseph the prophet upon Brigham Young, when he became the leader of the Church, has been repeated in these times, and quite recently concerning our late president and the president who has been elected, appointed and sustained today, and I believe that the prophet Joseph will be near to Heber J. Grant when necessary—Joseph F. Smith, I mean. And so in regard to his family. I am satisfied in my own mind, and by my own experience, that the powers on high are with the powers on the earth. Men holding the Holy Priesthood, who have ministered in the flesh and have gone into the world of spirits, and are laboring there in the same great cause as that in which we are engaged in the flesh, help the brethren in their times of need, and are with them, and stand by them in times

that try men's souls. I am assured of this, I say, in my own experience; and this is the power by which we shall prevail over the things of the world. The time will come when the priesthood behind the veil will minister personally in the temples of God to men holding the priesthood in the flesh, revealing matters that are needful to be known concerning the departed that the work being performed for the dead, as well as for the living may go on and be accomplished and perfected properly, and that we may grow up together in Jesus the Christ, who is our living head.

SOME THINGS THAT PRESIDENT SMITH WOULD SAY.

Now, my brethren and sisters, there are two or three things that I think President Joseph F. Smith would talk about, if he were present with us today. One is that great truth concerning Jesus of Nazareth. During the later years of his life, President Smith took great pleasure and joy in bearing his testimony to his certainty of knowledge that Jesus is and was the Christ, that he died for mankind, that through him and by him the worlds were made, under the direction of the great Eternal Father, and that he came on the earth in the meridian of time, and laid down his life, voluntarily, for the sins of mankind, that through faith and repentance and baptism, and obedience to all the ordinances of the house of the Lord, men might be raised from the dead and saved and become perfected in the celestial glory, to inherit the fulness of the blessings pertaining to eternal lives; and that through him and by him all the dead, small and great, will come forth from their tombs and stand upon their feet and be judged according to their works, the good, bad or indifferent, of all races and countries and climes, for he is the Redeemer of the world; and "as in Adam all die," so in Christ shall all be raised from the dead. This was one of the themes on which he dwelt before he departed from us, and especially in later years.

THE CHURCH OF CHRIST THE ONLY CHURCH.

Another truth is that this Church, to which we belong, is the only Church of Christ on the earth. This is not saying anything against the views or opinions of our friends and neighbors, or people afar off, who differ from us in our views, not at all. We are quite willing that they shall go their way, particularly if they will allow us to go ours. Sometimes they have tried to prevent us, but they have not accomplished very much in their efforts, no matter what they have done, but this work has gone on in spite of opposition as it will go on until everything beneath the eternal heavens is subdued unto the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Ghost, and divinity shall reign on the earth instead of mortality and wickedness and corruption.

This Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints has a special mission in the world and that mission has come from on high, not from the minds of men, not from the reading of books, not inherited from old creeds, but it is the gospel of Jesus Christ, restored to earth in its fulness, in its purity, in its power, in its authority and its unity with the heavens; and it

will prevail. All the different sects and organizations in Christendom and the others that are in heathendom suit pretty well the people who adhere to them. All right. Let them stay by them, if they think they are good enough; but they are not good enough for Latter-day Saints. We want the truth as it is on high, and, as it is revealed from on high to the servants of God on the earth; and this organization to which we belong is peculiar to itself.

NO NEED FOR OUTSIDE ORDERS.

That introduces another point that I am sure President Joseph F. Smith, if he were here, would touch upon at this conference, and it is this: That when we are in this Church and members of it, we belong to the body of Christ, and there is no need for us to go outside of it for anything in the world, particularly of a religious character. We have no need to dabble in the things of the world; we have no need to join other organizations that are antagonistic to or out of harmony with this Church. Here is something for the Latter-day Saints to consider at this conference. There is nothing new in what I am saying, but it needs to be impressed upon the minds of our people in every part of the Church, and these men who hold the holy priesthood who have lifted up their hands today to sustain the authorities of this Church should carry with them, when they go home, this spirit and this determination as advice for our people. We will serve the Lord! Let the dying world go to its grave if it will. Let the wicked that are being bound in bundles go to the burning if they do not repent, but as for us, we, with all we are and with all we have, should be in this Church in body and in spirit, in every capacity, and there should be no need and no desire on our part to go outside of the strait and narrow way, the only way which leads to the presence of the Eternal Father and to the gift of eternal life.

Now, this is not saying anything against people who desire to belong to other societies. If a man is satisfied with any of the Christian sects, if it suits him or suits his wife, that is his concern. Generally speaking it is the wife who does the religion in the outside world. I have conversed with a great many very prominent men, some of them members of Congress, and this is what they say: Oh, I don't care about religion, my wife does all that and I go to Church with her." Well, let people who like that kind of thing keep on liking it and if they do not choose to receive what we have—which is perfection in religion, which is Godlike and comes from God, and leads to God—if they do not like that, why they have the privilege of letting it alone. We would not do anything to compel them, if we had the power, to walk in our way; but that is not the point. If men like to believe in the doctrines and principles and sermons that are preached in the world, all right, but as for us, what should we do? What is the duty of the elders of Israel and of men holding the holy priesthood, and of the members of the Church who have been baptized into the Church? Their duty is to be with Christ, baptized into Christ, having put on Christ, coming unto him, belonging to him, to be part of the body of Christ, which is his Church, and to have no entang-

ling alliances with anything outside. Not to do any injury to anybody else who does not see as we do, not at all; not to find fault with them for taking their own way, but our way should be the way of the Lord.

We have no need of anything else. In the troubles that are coming—for the world is menaced now with troubles and strife and division which will bring misery and sorrow and destruction to many souls—let our place be in the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, in the order of the holy priesthood, and we have no need to join other orders to take away part of our time, part of our influence, and part of our means and to hinder us from devoting ourselves entirely to the work of the Lord. Let me urge this upon the attention of my dear brethren and sisters who are here this afternoon. This is the Lord's work and it is marvelous in our eyes. Brother Lund alluded to the revelation of the Lord in the beginning, before there was any organized church of the Saints: "A great and marvelous work is about to come forth unto the children of men. Therefore, thrust in your sickle and reap." Yes, indeed, a marvelous work and a wonder, just as Isaiah predicted; and one of the signs of it was that the wisdom of the wise would perish and the understanding of the prudent would come to naught; but wisdom and inspiration and knowledge and certainty and power are in the gospel of Jesus Christ, revealed from him and by him and under his direction in the last days. Oh my brethren and sisters, why waste your time, your talents, your means, your influence in following something that will perish and pass away, when you could devote yourselves to a thing that will stand forever? For this Church and kingdom, to which you belong, will abide and continue in time, in eternity, while endless ages roll along, and you with it will become mightier and more powerful; while the things of this world will pass away and perish, and will not abide in nor after the resurrection, saith the Lord our God.

JOSEPH A MIGHTY PREACHER OF RIGHTEOUSNESS.

So I say of our dear president, Brother Joseph F. Smith, to whose grandeur of character and faithfulness in the ministry and power and authority from God I add my humble testimony, if he were here I feel assured that he would touch on these questions in a far better way than I could attempt to do. He was a mighty preacher before the Lord. His words were golden. Many of them are treasured up; others have passed away and will be heard perhaps no more until many ages may come in the future. The time will come when all things will be made manifest and the veil of the covering be taken away and we shall see as we are seen, and know as we are known. Our true character will come up and we will be judged and valued for what we are, not for what men have thought about us. In that time all these great things that are hid shall be revealed, from the beginning to the end of time, down through the great dispensations of the past and brought forth in the greatest dispensation of all, the dispensation of the fullness of times.

Now I add my testimony to the eulogies pronounced this morning so beautifully by our brethren upon the great men who have been with us

and who have departed from us. The Lord has proved to us that great as they were, others can come forth to perform his work, when he is with them; that this work does not depend upon any single individual or any little coterie of individuals. It is the Lord's work, and is marvelous in our eyes. We will abide with it and give it our support, do what little we can while we live on the earth, and when we depart we fully expect, without any doubt in our souls, to go over to the great multitude of men and women behind the veil who are engaged in this same work, carrying it to those who sit in darkness in the spirit world, working for Christ and for the salvation of mankind under his direction, fighting under his banner the powers that are evil and preparing the great day when he shall come, and the Saints with him, and reign over all the earth in mighty power and glory. God help us to do this. God help us to see things as they are, to withdraw our influence from those things that are not of God, center our affections, our thoughts, our means, our influence, our power, and especially the authority of the holy priesthood in this great Church that the Lord has set up, which shall win its widening way until all the generations of men that can be saved in this world and in the world behind the veil, shall be brought out of darkness into light and bow the knee to King Immanuel, and serve God our heavenly Father and acknowledge Jesus the Christ as King and Lord of all. Amen.

Edith Grant Young sang: "Who are these arrayed in white?"

ELDER RUDGER CLAWSON

In the quorums of the priesthood there is an irresistible, compelling power—The leaders of Israel, what a galaxy of men!—President Joseph F. Smith a powerful preacher of righteousness.

Brethren and sisters, my feelings this afternoon are quite in accord with the views expressed by President Penrose. I think we had a glorious meeting this morning. The gathering in of the quorums of the priesthood and arranging them in their order was eminently proper, and as they sat here filling the body of the house they presented a most inspiring scene. And when they arose and voted for our new President and the General Authorities of the Church, quorum after quorum, with uplifted hands, and finally, when all the congregation

stood with uplifted hands and voted, it indicated to me that there is in these quorums of priesthood an irresistible, compelling power. I was reminded of the trite saying that in unity there is strength, in division weakness. And surely, brethren and sisters, the Latter-day Saints are strong because they have a united priesthood and people.

The theme chosen and dwelt upon by the speakers this morning was most ennobling. Our leaders, Joseph Smith, Brigham Young, John Taylor, Wilford Woodruff, Lorenzo Snow and Joseph F. Smith—what a galaxy of men! Where could you find their equal in all the world? These men were brilliant in the knowledge of truth. They were learned in the deep things of God, and they exercised keys and powers bearing upon the salvation of immortal souls. These men, prophets, seers and revelators, held the keys of the kingdom of

heaven. Great were they indeed, but men, nevertheless, with their weaknesses and imperfections. However, their record, their faith, their words, their lives are before us, as an open book. Scan them as you will, investigate, look up their records from all sides and you will find no great blemishes. They were pure, good men, free from the sins of the world, and men whom we could safely follow.

The late President Joseph F. Smith—I loved sincerely and deeply. I loved him because of his integrity to the work of God. I loved him because of his good example before the Church and before the world. I loved him because of his kindly and thoughtful consideration for his brethren and associates in the ministry and for the Latter-day Saints generally, for he was a most genial and lovable man. I loved him because of the wise counsel and timely admonitions that constantly fell from his lips. He was indeed a powerful preacher of righteousness. The influence of his words will be felt by the coming generations. A righteous man may die and pass from the earth, but his words of truth and testimony can not die and will not pass away, but they will live in the hearts of the people and bear fruit to the honor and the glory of God.

The following fervent exhortation was uttered by President Joseph F. Smith, at the April conference of 1902, which was shortly after he had been sustained as President of the Church. Brethren and sisters give ear to these words:

"Let us sustain the cause of Zion. Let no man speak lightly of the or-

dinances of the house of God. Let no man hold in derision the priesthood that the Lord has restored to the earth. It is the authority that He has given unto men. Let no man look contemptuously upon the organization of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints as it has been established in the earth through the instrumentality of the Prophet Joseph Smith, whom the Lord raised up when he was but a child to lay the foundation of the same. Let no man treat these things lightly or doubtingly, but let every man seek to instill and understand the truth and teach his children to become familiar with those truths of heaven which have been restored to earth in the latter days. I believe with all my soul in God the Father and our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. I believe with all my might, mind and strength in the Savior of the world, and in the principles of redemption from death and sin. I believe in the divine mission of the Prophet Joseph Smith. I believe in all the truth that I know, and I believe that there are many principles of eternal truth that still lie hidden from man and from the understanding of men which will yet be revealed by the power of God unto his faithful servants. I believe that the Lord has revealed unto the children of men all that they know. I do not believe that any man has discovered any principle of science or art, in mechanism or mathematics or anything else that God did not know before man did. Man is indebted to the Source of all intelligence and truth for the knowledge that he possesses and all who will yield obedience to the promptings of the Spirit which lead to virtue, to honor, to the love of God and man to the love of truth and that which is ennobling and enlarging to the soul will get a cleaner and more expansive and more direct and conclusive knowledge of God's truths than any one else can obtain. I believe this because I know it is true. The Lord Almighty lives. He made the heavens and the earth and the fountains of water. We are his children, his offspring and we are not here by chance. The Lord designed our coming and the object of our being here. He designs that we shall accomplish our mission to be-

come conformed to the likeness and image of Jesus Christ that like him we may be without sin unto salvation, and like him we may be filled with pure intelligence, and like him we may be exalted to the right hand of the Father to sit upon thrones and have dominions and power in the sphere in which we shall be called to act. I testify to this doctrine for the Lord has made me to know and feel the truth of it from the crown of my head to the soots of my feet. I love good honorable men, even men who may be mistaken, as far as their judgment is concerned, but who try to do right. I love them for the reason that they are my brethren and sons of my Father and I would that they might all see the truth as it is in Christ Jesus and accept it and receive all the benefits of it in time and throughout all eternity. If the Lord has revealed to the world a plan of salvation and redemption from sin by which men may be exalted again into his presence and partake of eternal life with him, I submit as a proposition that can not be controverted that no man can be exalted in the presence of God and attain to a fullness of glory and happiness in his kingdom and presence save and except he will obey the plan that God has devised and revealed."

Brethren and sisters, if we will take these few precious words to heart, treasure them up in our souls, and conform our lives to them, we will surely attain to a salvation and an exaltation in the celestial kingdom, which is God's greatest gift to man. May the Lord bless us and help us to do his will, and to follow in the steps of our noble leaders, is my prayer in the name of Jesus. Amen.

ELDER GEO. ALBERT SMITH

Meaning of sustaining the Authorities—Eulogy of President Joseph F. Smith—An honor to preside over the British Mission—Personal testimony of the Divinity of the Church and the restoration of the gospel—

Injunction to faithful service—Prayer for mission presidents—The world has need of missionaries; let all prepare to teach the gospel—Farewell remarks—Sustaining the leaders of the Church.

I rejoice today in being permitted to meet with you in this general conference and in being permitted to raise my hand to sustain those whom our heavenly Father has called to preside over us. It must be a source of strength to the President of this Church to look into the faces of thousands of honest men and women and observe them raise their hand in covenant with our Father in heaven, and sustain him in the office to which he has been called as president of this great Church. The obligation that we make when we raise our hands under such circumstances, is a most sacred one. It does not mean that we will go quietly on our way and be willing that the prophet of the Lord shall direct this work, but it means,—if I understand the obligation I assumed when I raised my hand—that we will stand behind him; we will pray for him; we will defend his good name, and we will strive to carry out his instructions as the Lord shall direct him to offer them to us while he remains in that position. So it is a power of strength that has been reared today to our beloved president, Heber J. Grant, and his counselors, as we voted for them in this solemn assembly.

It is with peculiar feelings that I stand here today. At our last general conference I was stricken ill, and was only able to attend one meeting of the conference, being taken to the hospital from the first meeting in the morning. I am grateful that the remembrance I have of

President Smith was his wonderful testimony borne on that occasion to us. I look back and feel that it was a privilege to be at that meeting, because it was the last assembly that he addressed in this great building. His work is done. The beautiful tributes that have been paid to him by loving brothers and sisters of this Church have no effect now other than to comfort those of us who remain, but his wonderful devotion to duty, his magnanimous feeling toward mankind, his tender love of the weak and the erring, will be sources of inspiration to all of us who knew him, as long as we live upon the earth.

There was no duty too arduous for him to perform, if he felt it was the will of the Lord. He began his work in infancy almost, and I might say in passing that his life was preserved from being smothered to death by a mob when he was a little baby in his mother's arms. He was resuscitated and brought back to life after his little body had turned black as a result of suffocation. He came across the great plains with his mother, and while only a child was a man in determination, standing by the side of his mother and those who were with her, determined to do his duty and serve God and keep his commandments. When a mere youth he was called to the islands of the sea as referred to here this morning. He had to work his way across the ocean and was willing to do anything that he might be able to reach his field of labor; not going as some of us do today, in a palace car and in a palatial steamer, but he went in a humble manner. He wrought upon the hearts of the people of that land until today there are thousands in the islands of the sea who call his

name blessed; and in that land to which I have been called to go, he ministered in his young manhood, devoted himself in faith and devotion to win mankind to repentance, to warn men of the judgments that were impending, calling them from the error of their ways, begging them to turn to the Lord, to receive the gospel, and to accept of the mercy of our Father to those who love him and keep his commandments.

These are some of the memories that come to me upon my feet regarding this blessed man. Of course, most of you, many of you, know how near he was to me, almost like a father. I had the opportunity of traveling with him from ocean to ocean, and from the north land to the south, all over the United States. I had the pleasure of watching over him by day and guiding him by night. I have rejoiced in the testimony of the gospel that I have heard him bear in many places, and I have been made glad when I have seen the great strong men of the earth shake his hand and go away with the impression that he was indeed no ordinary man. I have known of people who, out of curiosity, called at the office here in Salt Lake City to see President Smith, and before they have left the ground upon which the building stands, I have heard them say, turning to each other: "What a wonderful character!"

Think of him as a little boy whose father was taken from him in his childhood—this little boy who was willing to go where the Lord wanted him to go. He had not the opportunities of college, of university training, but he was lifted up day by day, under the inspiration of almighty God, until he could stand

among his fellows, honored and blessed, and loved, not only by all Israel, but by many of those who are alien to the gospel of Jesus Christ. What did it, my brethren and sisters? It was the gospel of our Lord. It was devotion to the Father of us all. It was a desire to bless mankind, and a knowledge that our Father lives; that Jesus is the Christ, and then a determination to live up to that knowledge in order that he might gain a place beside his beloved father and mother and the prophets who had gone before, to be worthy of their companionship throughout the ages of eternity.

He was blessed as few men have been blessed in this world—indeed I might say as no other man I know of in this world,—by a most remarkable family, to which reference has been made today, men and women who honor the Lord and keep his commandments, who revere their husband and father. We do well to remember, even at this remote period of time from his passing, the man who has been lifted from poverty to affluence, who was able to stand among his fellows unsurpassed by any child of our father who lived in his day. I am grateful that I have had the touch of his hand, I am thankful that I have had the press of his lips upon mine, I am pleased that he considers me one of his family, and today I mourn his departure and remember his passing as if it were but yesterday.

I am grateful to be permitted to walk along the paths that he has walked, and as I go to that land referred to by President Grant, I desire, with all my soul, to be worthy of those who have preceded me—the great and good men of this

Church who have presided there in honor and dignity, and among them our beloved brother and president, Joseph F. Smith. There are those sitting here upon this stand who have been there and have performed a wonderful labor. I would like to say to you, my brothers and sisters, that I esteem it an honor—nay, more than an honor, I esteem it a very great blessing—that the Lord has raised me from the feeble condition that I was in a short time ago, restoring me to such a condition of health that the brethren have felt that it will be possible for me to fill a mission in a foreign land. I would not undertake it if it were any other kind of a mission. I know that my Redeemer lives; I know that Jesus Christ is the Son of God and is exalted at the right hand of his Father. I know that Joseph Smith was a prophet of the Lord. While he gave his temporal life in order that his testimony might be binding upon the children of men, I am sure as I stand here that today he is exalted in the presence of the Redeemer, rejoicing in the development that has come to the work of the Lord since the gospel of Jesus Christ was restored to the earth through his humble instrumentality. I am grateful for the testimony that burns in my bosom that this is our Father's work.

Be diligent, ye men of Israel, who bear the Priesthood of our Lord. Do not think that you can gain the honor, the distinction and the eternal blessings that President Smith will gain if you do the works that are less than he has done. It is not necessary that a man should be a member of the Quorum of the Twelve, or the Presidency of the Church, in order to obtain the

greatest blessings in the kingdom of our heavenly Father. These are but offices required in the Church, and there are many faithful and devoted men worthy to fill these offices whose time and talents are needed throughout the Church. There are, in the Church more good men than those occupying these positions, and remember that in the ranks and throughout the Church there is ample opportunity for every man and for every woman to do something for the blessing of their fellows and for the advancement of the work of the Lord.

I see sitting before me today men who have been in the mission-field as presidents of missions, who have come here from their fields of labor, honorably released. They have performed yeoman service; they have devoted themselves to the blessing of God's children. They have left, in the fields from which they have come, men and women who bless them and who will remember them in tenderness throughout all times. I feel in my soul to bless them and welcome them home with their loved ones and pray that they may have their feet planted here among their loved ones in the valleys of the mountains with the same determination to serve God and magnify their calling, as they have manifested while they have been entrusted with presiding offices in the mission-field. I see before me men who have been called to succeed them. I pray that the spirit of their calling may fall upon them, that they may feel the inspiration of the Lord and fully understand the necessity of doing their duty as they go to their fields of labor, that they may rejoice in seeing the children of our Father come to him by reason of their

faith and their devotion; that they may rejoice, as those who come home have rejoiced and, if possible, that the blessings of the Lord may be more abundantly bestowed upon those among whom they minister, than has been done in the past.

The world is in distress, in travail, from one end of it to the other. Men and women are looking here and there, seeking where they shall go to do the things that will bring them peace. My brethren, the authority of the holy priesthood is upon the earth. The gospel of Jesus Christ has been restored. The truth revealed from heaven is here and it is that truth, that gospel, which, if the world only knew it, will be a panacea for all their ills. It is the only thing that will bring them peace while they remain upon the earth.

I find here a short section of the Doctrine and Covenants to which I wish to draw your attention. I would like every man who bears the priesthood of our heavenly Father to remember the words of this particular section. I would like every man to apply it to himself, and I would like every good woman who has received the blessings of the gospel to apply it to her life; and applying it to our lives, remember that our days are numbered and that the opportunity to magnify our calling will soon be cut short here in this world. This is a revelation given to the Prophet Joseph Smith in Harmony, Susquehanna county, Pennsylvania, February, 1829:

"Now behold, a marvelous work is about to come forth among the children of men;

"Therefore, O ye that embark in the service of God, see that ye serve him with all your heart, might, mind and strength, that ye may stand blameless before God at the last day."

That is what I would like us to remember. That is the word of the Lord unto Israel, repeated again this day by one of God's servants. The world has need of you and of your ministry. There are no other men in the world, outside this Church, who have the rights that you have, and the privileges, and no other body of men will have the opportunities that come to you. Now that the time is near at hand when the bars will be let down and the barriers overthrown that have been raised to the spread of the gospel, when the sound of the voice of the Lord shall come to you, through his servants, "Prepare to go into the world and preach the gospel," do not do as Jonah did, do not try to hide or run away from your duty; do not make excuses that you do not have the necessary means to go; do not set up foolish things in the way of your vision that will prevent your seeing eternal life in the presence of our heavenly Father, which can come only by reason of faith and devotion in his cause. Let every man set his house in order; let every man who bears the priesthood, set himself in order, and when the call comes from the servants of the Lord, telling him to go into the world to teach the truth, to warn the children of men, as our Father requires they shall be warned, let no man hide behind some foolish thing, to be swallowed up, if not by a great fish, by the foolish things of the world.

I pray that the Spirit of God may burn in the bosoms of the Latter-day Saints; that the love and charity our Father has for his children may be ours; that we may rejoice when we see his children understanding the truth and that we may be willing to make what may

sometimes be termed a sacrifice; that we may be willing to make the investment to bless our kind, going forth with all our might to bring light and salvation to the children of men by preaching unto them the restored gospel of our Lord.

Now, my brethren and sisters, I may have no other opportunity of saying goodbye to you, before I leave. Next Wednesday I expect to take the train to the coast and then across the ocean to the field to which I have been called. Thank God for the opportunity of going. I am grateful that the knowledge of this truth has come into my soul. I am thankful for the companionship of the men by whom I have been surrounded and with whom I have been permitted to associate. I am grateful for you and for the kindness you have bestowed upon me as I have ministered unto you in your homes in the stakes and wards of the land. God bless you and yours and all Israel. O, brothers and sisters, pray with all your might that the light may enter into the hearts of the children of men; that they may turn from the error of their ways when the gospel is brought to them by a humble elder; that they may understand the voice and receive the message and be gathered out from the nations, before the Lord shall sweep the earth again with his scourges, as he has promised to do. This is but the beginning of sorrow and it is your duty and mine to minimize so far as possible, the sorrows of our Father's children, by blessing them with the message of peace, with the gospel of love, and call them from the error of their ways; that they may rejoice with us, if we are faithful, in the mansions of glory on high. May the peace and blessing of our

heavenly Father be upon us all. May we be worthy of the opportunity that has come to us. May we see the magnitude of the work we have set our hands to do and remember the commandment that we shall do it with all our might, mind and strength; that we may stand blameless before the Lord at the last day.

With all my heart, I sustain the men whom we have sustained today—President Grant and his counselors—to preside over us. They have been called by divine power; they have been sustained by this great people, and the Lord will sustain them in their ministry. They are unselfish and they are untiring in going about doing good and blessing those who live upon the earth. I honor them and I love them. I pray that our Father will bless them that they may have joy in their ministry. I pray that these, my brethren of the Council of the Twelve, whom I soon shall leave, may have joy in their ministry wherever they may go. Brethren and sisters, welcome them into your homes and into the organized stakes as they go among you. They bring to you a message of love, as also do the First Council of Seventy, the Patriarch and the presiding Bishopric, all those who, as general authorities of the Church go to visit you from time to time. These all are our Father's servants. Honor them, sustain them, and bless them, and our Father will honor and sustain and bless you. I pray that our Father may grant unto you the peace that passeth all understanding.

May the joy of the memory of that devoted man, President Joseph F. Smith, in whose honor, in part at least, we have met here today,

remain with us. Let us try, so far as may be, to measure up to his splendid virtue and, by and by—it may not be long for any of us—when the Father of us all shall summon us home, that we may find awaiting us on the other shore these splendid men and women who have honored God and kept his commandments, who have earned celestial glory in our Father's kingdom. That we may rejoice with them and they with us throughout the ages of eternity, is my desire! O may the Lord bless us all; may he help us to appreciate the opportunity that is placed in our way and give us a burning desire to bless our kind. May we honor him and keep his commandments, and in the end obtain eternal life and celestial glory with our Father's children wherever they may be in the world, who are worthy, is my prayer in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

ELDER ORSON F. WHITNEY

Tribute to President Joseph F. Smith
—The elements of greatness—
The machinery and the power—
Anecdote of Bishop Newel K.
Whitney—Jeremiah's call—Joseph
and Sidney's vision—Church leaders
past and present.

President Joseph F. Smith was not only a Prophet; he was also a Patriarch—a fatherly man in every sense of the term. Second only to his loyalty and devotion to the work of God, was his warm and tender love for his family—his wives and children. Their welfare and happiness in time and for all eternity were his constant care.

And how rich was his recompence! In all that numerous flock of sons and daughters, not one "black sheep" is to be found, not

one wanderer from the fold of the Good Shepherd. This reflection must have been to him an unfailing source of comfort and consolation. The divinest work of Divinity, the most Godlike of all achievements, is in "bringing to pass the immortality and eternal life of man." Next to that, and indeed a very part thereof, is the rearing of a family as President Smith reared his. He fully realized that it represented the nucleus and foundation of his eternal glory.

His paternal affection, though it began at home, did not end there. It went out far beyond the boundaries of his domestic domain. It embraced God's people as a whole, rich and poor, high and low. All who served the Lord were sharers in his sympathy and esteem.

Few things pleased the President more than to welcome to his hospitable home, or to public halls owned by the Church, his friends and fellow-laborers, for purposes of entertainment. A marked feature of his administration was an extended series of receptions, given at Conference time, in honor of the veterans who drove ox teams or pulled hand carts over the plains in pre-railroad days, or were occupying posts of hardship, if not of danger, in out of the way sections.

His kind thoughtfulness for the aged, and his tender concern for little children, were among his most pronounced characteristics. He held that children as well as men and women have rights, and that these rights should always be respected. I was present on one occasion when he expressed himself indignantly over the conduct of a woman who, coming late into

a public assembly, drew a child out of a seat that she wished to occupy. I have known him to leave his place on a railroad train to speak a word of comfort to a poor old lady, whose feelings had been hurt by an ill-mannered conductor. Once I saw him, when an excursion was about to start, walk the full length of the crowded train, with no apparent object but to satisfy himself that everyone else was comfortably seated; and not until every chick and child was provided for, did the President of the Church take his seat.

"Safety first" was his business motto. He never plunged recklessly into an enterprise, however inviting, and always looked before he leaped. Like Longfellow's Blacksmith, he "owed not any man," and this was ever his counsel to the people. Nor would he allow the Church to become indebted for a single dollar that it could not pay on demand. As Trustee-in-Trust, he permitted no needless expenditure of the funds entrusted to his care, and he kept and rendered strict account of all monies or other properties that came into his hands as custodian. He was determined that the credit of the Church, which he had helped to make "gilt-edged," should so remain.

A complete list of the public works connected with President Smith's career would form a lengthy catalogue. Never before in the history of the Latter-day Saints was there such a building administration. Those who criticized him for what they deemed a too active participation in commercial affairs, and thought that he should have been engrossed in spiritual things to the exclusion of the temporal,

overlooked the fact that from the "Mormon" point of view, the spiritual includes the temporal.

Every one who truly knew Joseph F. Smith recognized in him a man of mighty faith and religious power—a spiritual giant. A wonderfully impressive public speaker, he was deliberate and slow of utterance until aroused, when his words came like a torrent, with the roar of the cataract or the thunder peal. In forceful and vehement oratory, or what might be termed emotional eloquence, he had no equal in the Church.

President Smith's dominant traits were his unflinching courage and his unflagging devotion to duty. A man more diligent, more industrious, more zealous in the practice of the principles he professed, it would be impossible to find. Honest, fearless, and determined, he did not court martyrdom, but neither would he have shrunk from it, had the choice been between death and dishonor. He was an example of moral rectitude, of clean conduct, of right living. His noble qualities, his illustrious lineage, and his exalted station gave him a prestige all but unrivaled in the annals of the Church over which he presided. From his youth up, throughout his entire career, he stood a stalwart in the land, a man of unblemished integrity, a rock against which the billows of temptation beat and dashed in vain.

What made Joseph F. Smith such a character? Two things: In the first place, he was a big man—big by nature, and developed by experience. In the next place, God was with him. The machinery is one thing, and the power that moves the machinery is another.

The two combined constitute great ness.

Presiding Bishop Edward Hunter—he it was, if I remember aright—once related to me an anecdote about his predecessor, my grandfather, Newel K. Whitney, the second man called to the Bishopric in this dispensation. It was at Kirtland, Ohio, in December, 1831. The law of consecration had been revealed and was about to be put into operation. The properties of the Saints had to be consecrated for the building up of Zion, and Bishops were needed to handle these properties and administer the temporalities of the Church. Edward Partridge was the first Bishop called, but he had been sent down into Missouri, where the foundations of Zion were laid, and another Bishop was needed for Kirtland—a Stake of Zion. The Lord said: "My servant Newel K. Whitney is the man who shall be appointed and ordained unto this power." (Doctrine & Covenants 72:8.) Newel K. Whitney, staggering under the weight of the responsibility that was about to be placed upon him, said to the Prophet: "Brother Joseph, I can't see a Bishop in myself."

No; but God could see it in him. He was a natural Bishop—a first class man of affairs. Probably no other incumbent of that important office, the Presiding Bishopric, to which he eventually attained, has been better qualified for it than Newel K. Whitney. But he could not see it, and he shrank from the responsibility. The Prophet answered: "Go and ask the Lord about it." And Newel did ask the Lord, and he heard a voice from heaven say: "*Thy strength is in me.*" That was enough. He accepted the

office, and served in it faithfully to the end of his days—a period of eighteen years.

When I heard this anecdote, it reminded me of the Prophet Jeremiah, to whom the word of the Lord came, saying in effect: "Before I formed thee in the body I knew thee, and I sanctified thee and ordained thee a prophet unto the nations." But Jeremiah, overwhelmed by the call to such a responsible station, exclaimed: "Ah, Lord God, behold I cannot speak; for I am a child." But the Lord said: "Say not, I am a child, for thou shalt go to all that I shall send thee, and whatsoever I command thee, thou shalt speak. * * Be not dismayed at their faces * * for behold I have made thee this day a defensed city, and an iron pillar and brazen walls against the whole land, against the kings of Judah, against the princes thereof, against the priests thereof, and against the people of the land. And they shall fight against thee; but they shall not prevail against thee; for I am with thee saith the Lord, to deliver thee." (Jer. 1:4-7; 17-19.)

God was with his servant, Joseph Smith, a man of great gifts, a mighty soul, sent into the world to be a prophet, a seer and a revelator. But what could he have done if God had not been with him? When Joseph Smith and Sidney Rigdon saw that wonderful vision of the celestial, terrestrial, and telestial glories, they said concerning it: "Being in the Spirit, on the sixteenth day of February, in the year of our Lord, 1832, by the power of the Spirit our eyes were opened," etc. There is the key. It was because God was with them, that they were able to see the Son of God and converse with him "in

the heavenly vision." They had eyes—spiritual eyes; they were seers. But what could they see until the Spirit of God came upon them and gave them the use of the seeric gift? The machinery was there, but the power had to be turned on.

So it was with Brigham Young, with John Taylor, with Wilford Woodruff, with Lorenzo Snow, with Joseph F. Smith; and so it is with Heber J. Grant, our beloved President of today. He has great gifts, a big heart, a kind soul, and because God is with him he will do a great and glorious work. But without God, neither he nor any other man could accomplish anything worth while.

This is my testimony regarding the First Presidency of the Church. They are the right men in the right place—the men for the time and the hour; and it is for us to stand by them, to hold up their hands, to rally round them and follow them; and God's work will triumph, his Kingdom will come in power and glory, and his holy will be done on earth even as it is done in heaven. Amen,

The choir and congregation sang one verse of: "The Spirit of God like a fire is burning."

A number of notices were read among them a statement that the choir would hold a concert in the Tabernacle, Friday, June 6, 5 p. m., when they would present Mendelssohn's oratorio, "St. Paul;" the Sunday School Union meeting would be held this evening in the Tabernacle; and a special Priesthood meeting in the Assembly Hall, Wednesday, June 4, 10 a. m.

The choir sang the anthem: "Praise."

The closing prayer was offered by Elder Heber S. Allen, of the Taylor stake.

SECOND OVERFLOW MEETING.

A second overflow meeting was held in the Assembly Hall, at 2 o'clock p. m., Sunday, June 1, 1919, Elder Joseph Fielding Smith, presiding.

Music was furnished by the Latter-day Saints University students choir, directed by B. Cecil Gates.

The choir and congregation sang: "Now let us rejoice."

The opening prayer was by Elder Harden Bennion.

The choir sang: "Remember, O Lord."

ELDER HYRUM G. SMITH

(Presiding Patriarch of the Church).

As was announced this morning in our general conference, the program for this afternoon is to remember both in spirit and in word the life, mission and works of our late president, Joseph F. Smith, and I am very grateful for another privilege of raising my voice in testimony concerning his life and mission.

It has been said by a number of older men, that they knew the Prophet Joseph Smith, and that they have known all of the presidents in their succession since him. It seems to me as if I knew him, because I have seen and heard those who did see, hear, and know him, and my faith is just as firm and just as well founded, perhaps, as if I had known him and seen him with

my own eyes. I believe in his mission, and know that he was a prophet of God. Neither did I see his successor, President Brigham Young, because his mission was finished two years before mine began here upon the earth. So, like unto the Prophet Joseph in my life, the life of President Brigham Young is that of memory and history to me. But I have heard the voice of those who were in that meeting which was referred to by President Grant where the mantle of the Prophet Joseph fell upon President Brigham Young, when some of the people were in doubt as to who was going to lead the Church, after the martyrdom.

So I feel that I have really partaken of the gathering upon that occasion, and I testify here that I think that the lives of men and women have been spared to us, to me for instance, to hear their voices in this great testimony which established the fact in my mind, as it did in the minds of hundreds of Latter-day Saints, that it was President Brigham Young who was to lead the Church instead of Sidney Rigdon or any other man. I am grateful that the lives of these men and women have been spared that I might hear their testimony, since I did not live in the time when it was possible for me to have attended that meeting or to get that testimony first hand. I have faith in the testimonies of these men and women whom I have mentioned. I mention particularly the life of Aunt Emmeline B. Wells. I think her life has been spared by the power of the Lord, for at least one purpose—that the youth of Zion might hear her testimony, that she was in that meeting and heard the voice of the Prophet Joseph from the mouth

of President Brigham Young. I have also heard the testimony of Patriarch George Romney, whose life has been spared, I believe, that his testimony may go forth among the young people concerning that same fact, and circumstance.

I do not remember President Taylor; although as a small boy, I may have seen him, but during his presidency of the Church, his personal mission did not come into my life, because I did not live in Salt Lake City, and so I did not get acquainted with him. But I do have a distinct remembrance of President Wilford Woodruff. I think my first memory of him was when the Salt Lake temple was dedicated.

I have also a very distinct memory of President Lorenzo Snow. When I was a member of the Church school at Provo, he came to the school, and I remember that a number of small children marched up to the stand and presented him with flowers; and as they passed by he gave each one a blessing by placing his hand upon their heads. That was a very impressive memory in my life.

I also have a very distinct memory of the life of my dear uncle, President Joseph F. Smith, and I learned to love him, although we were separated about three generations. There are many people in the Church who, perhaps, due to their lack of acquaintance of the family history, have taken me to be a member of his family. But had I been an actual son of his, he could not have treated me better. His latest words to me were to the effect that I was not a real member of his family, but that he felt towards me as though I were a member of his immediate family; also in ten-

derness expressing his love for me. His kindness toward me was so manifest, I could not help but love him. I was always happy while in his presence, and I never had that feeling of timidity or desire to withdraw from him. There seemed to be power in his spirit that drew me toward him rather than repelled me from him. I love his memory, and look upon his testimony and his works as those of a prophet of the Lord, as those of one who was among the leading prophets and presidents of the Church in all the world.

I have often contrasted the events of history, when he took the office of president and when he left it. Outsiders, as we speak of non-members, looked upon him, how they hated him. Many of them said violent words about him; and they not only said words but they drew hideous pictures about him, caricatured him, and maligned his name and family.

Although I was not present upon either of the occasions to which I shall refer, I have heard that when Prest. Joseph F. Smith was taken as a witness before the United States Senate that people in the gallery, many of them influential persons and officers of the government with their friends, actually hissed at him when he was brought in before them as a witness; but before the close of that great case, these very persons, sought an opportunity to pay respect to him.

Upon another occasion, the genealogists of Utah were gathered in a great meeting in California, where there were many friends gathered, many influential men and women gathered in an outdoor meeting. Many of them were wearing their hats, and when President Joseph F.

Smith arose and declared that he wished to speak to them as a servant of the Lord Jesus Christ, those men took off their hats and paid him due reverence, not as just an ordinary man, but as a servant of the Lord who was to speak to them in the name of Jesus Christ. And they gave reverence to him, by uncovering their heads.

Little by little these changes took place until, as you remember, the hour of his funeral, by the proclamation of the Governor of this State, every house of business, every piece of machinery, almost, that was run by the state was closed and stopped for one hour; and not only the places of business throughout the state, but all men who knew him, whether they once hated him or not, once slighted the work that he did, or the cause which he represented, gave reverence to him and his name, and the work that he represented, the work of God. I am also told that in the distant and remote towns of this state the stores were closed. All business was closed. Street cars here in this busy city stopped for one hour, no matter where they were, at the given time. Other tokens of respect also were shown to him. This was a wonderful contrast to show that the people of the world, not only our friends, but our very enemies, have given honor to this man "whom God hath chosen."

So I love and bless his memory. I join with my fellows in praying God to bless his memory, and those who shall live after him, that his teachings may live in our hearts, that we may honor them, and through them honor God, in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

ELDER RICHARD R. LYMAN

During President Joseph F. Smith's administration all but three of the members have come into their present positions—Other great changes that have taken place—Persecution turned to admiration—The barren places into a veritable garden of roses—President Smith's rise from a lowly station to the highest among his people—His character and life.

My feelings were greatly touched, as no doubt yours were also, when, in the Tabernacle this morning, President Heber J. Grant took the place as presiding officer, which for some seventeen years had been occupied by President Joseph F. Smith.

Last Thursday at the regular weekly meeting of the First Presidency and the Council of the Twelve, President Grant explained that all but three of the members of the Council have come into their places during the administration of President Smith. "Therefore," he said, "it will be very fitting for all of us to speak briefly in honor of this wise and now immortal man and prophet, President Joseph F. Smith, at the memorial services which will be held for him as a portion of the general conference next Sunday."

Not only are the members of the First Presidency and of the Council of the Twelve assembled here today to do honor to his memory, but the presidents of nearly all the stakes, and the bishops of nearly all the wards, and the counselors to all of these, are also present. Of these I say what a traveling sister recently said of the presidents of the stakes: "I think no finer band of men can be found in all the world."

The heart of President Smith must be glad and gratified at this hour if he knows that all of these worthy officials are assembled, and so many other thousands of the members of the Church, that three great services are being held simultaneously in order to accommodate the multitude that is here for the purpose of paying respect to his dear memory.

During the administration of President Smith great changes have come. The intense prejudice that existed in the beginning has disappeared. The Patriarch, in his remarks has just referred to conditions that existed at the time of the Smoot investigation. Well do I remember those conditions. I was a graduate student at Cornell University. The Ithaca papers printed glaring headlines drawing attention to the testimony and published grotesque cartoons of those who, as witnesses, were being examined. These were trying days for me. They must have been much more trying for those of our people who were in Washington. The public jeered at the president. They spoke to him and of him disrespectfully. His keen sensibilities were deeply cut when in derision they called him "Prophet Smith." But truth will prevail. Right is might. When right and righteousness really come to the attention, then are people convinced.

It was but a few years after this investigation that President Smith went again to the city of Washington. Instead of being addressed as "Prophet Smith," he was greeted on every hand with "Mr. President, I am delighted to see you." The Vice-president of the United States said to him: "Mr. President, may I have the pleasure of your com-

pany at the great foot-ball contest this afternoon?"

Fairy tales hardly draw pictures more thrilling than that of the life of President Joseph F. Smith. When, as a boy at the age of nine, he drove an ox team into Salt Lake Valley, there was here, I have heard him say, but one green spot. If I remember correctly, he said there was in sight but one green tree and that tree grew on City Creek. This was then a prairie—a desert. During the seventy years since his coming, barrenness has been changed to beauty. This is today a veritable garden of roses. We are surrounded with every luxury and convenience of modern times.

The story of the life of President Smith is not unlike the story of David, King of Israel. The Lord said unto the Prophet Samuel: "How long wilt thou mourn for Saul, seeing I have rejected him from reigning over Israel? Fill thine horn with oil and go. I will send thee to Jesse, the Bethlehemite: for I have provided me a king among his sons.

"Samuel did that which the Lord spake, and came to Bethlehem."

When Jesse brought before him one of his handsome sons, tall and erect, the Prophet Samuel said: "Surely the Lord's anointed is before him."

"But the Lord said unto Samuel. look not on his countenance or on the height of his stature; because I have refused him; for the Lord seeth not as man seeth; for man looketh on the outward appearance, but the Lord looketh on the heart." And Jesse brought another son, and another, and another, until seven had passed by.

Then Samuel said unto Jesse: "The Lord hath not chosen these.

Are here all thy children?" Jesse said: "There remaineth yet the youngest and behold he keepeth the sheep."

Who was he? The carpenter's son? Was he the widow's boy that drove the ox team across the prairie in 1848? Was it the little fellow who herded cows bare-footed in this great valley long years ago? "Yes," said Jesse, "There remaineth yet the youngest and behold he keepeth the sheep."

And Samuel said unto Jesse: "Send and fetch him: for we will not sit down till he come hither."

When the shepherd boy with the ruddy, handsome countenance appeared, the Lord said: "Arise, anoint him, for this is he."

As it was with the shepherd David, so was it with the carpenter's son; and so was it with the widow's son who drove the ox team into the valley, in 1848. "The Lord seeth not as man seeth; for man looketh on the outward appearance, but the Lord looketh on the heart." All honor to the memory of President Joseph F. Smith, the widow's son. Under his leadership and the blessings of God, we find ourselves today a united, happy and prosperous people.

The sterling strength and nature of Joseph F. Smith would permit him to make no compromise with sin. On one occasion, he was approached by an attractive young woman, a member of the Church, who said: "My profession brings me on the stage where short sleeves and low necks are a positive necessity. Is it not possible in my case to have the regulations of the Church slightly modified? Are you going to require me to live in the same strict conformity with the

technicalities of the gospel in this respect as you do others?"

Some might ask the president: "In my case, may I not take just a little tea?" Or another in poor health might say: "May I not be permitted to take just a little coffee?" Still another might ask: "In this one case, will you not permit me to take just a little liquor?" Still others: "Is it necessary for me in my condition to remember the Lord every night and morning in my family and secret prayers?"

To all such questions as these, President Joseph F. Smith would reply, as he did to the charming little lady: "My dear little girl, if you do any of these things, you must do them on your own responsibility."

One of the great lecturers speaking before the Bonneville Club, at the Hotel Utah recently, said: "After the names in your city directory or telephone book you frequently find such words as doctor, merchant, dentist, lawyer, engineer, etc., etc. These words do not indicate the main business of those whose names they follow. They only indicate their sidelines. The main business of every man and the main business of every woman is the rearing of a family."

There is no part of the excellent life and labor of President Joseph F. Smith that he did with more pronounced success than he performed this, the main business of his life, the rearing of his family. History, ancient or modern, does not record a more perfect example of man's first and highest duty well done than that of President Joseph F. Smith in the rearing of his large and worthy and wonderful posterity.

For this good man and for his good life and wise leadership our

hearts are full of gratitude. May we put forth successful efforts to follow his teachings and his worthy example. Every feature of his life is an inspiration.

The L. D. S. U. Glee Club sang: "I waited before the Lord."

ELDER STEPHEN L. RICHARDS

Faith emphasized and made plain in the life of President Joseph F. Smith—His life and words forceful and powerful—An erector of standards and respecter of law—Few could equal his record of service—As a father and husband, he had few, if any equals—He was a home-builder—As a preacher of righteousness, he held first place among us—His was the strength of being clean and he abhorred impurity and evil habits—His main influence for good upon the thousands who heard and loved him.

I can hope, at best, to make but little contribution to the splendid eulogies that have been paid to our late President. I do not hesitate, however, to respond with some little feeling of satisfaction as well as trepidation to the call which gives me the opportunity of acknowledging, in some measure at least, my obligation to President Joseph F. Smith, a debt of gratitude to him that I feel I cannot express, and I can scarcely ever hope to repay.

I believe that every man and every woman requires an ideal. President Smith was my ideal in so many respects that I have a very large obligation to him for the leading of my life and for the inculcation of the principles which have controlled it. He was my ideal in nearly every respect. He so embodied in his life the great principles which I hold dear that he gave them a significance and a meaning and a tangibility that they could

have had in no other way. I believe that he was the greatest living exponent of the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ that we have known, at least in our day and generation. So perfectly, indeed, did he incorporate into his life the great principles to which he dedicated himself and his effort, that those principles were vitalized and made plain and sacred in his living, to an extent seldom achieved in the life of any man. When I think of the great principle of faith, I immediately think of the manner in which that principle was made plain and tangible in the life of President Joseph F. Smith. He was the very incarnation of faith. He made faith a plain, livable principle of the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ. That great principle which is at the foundation of all religious life radiated from his very person. When you heard him bear testimony of the truth and give expression to the faith that was in his soul, you never doubted, not for a moment, the truth of that which he felt and that which he spoke. It seemed so perfectly plain to him that he in turn could make it plain to others.

When you think of the other great principles of the gospel—repentance, the Word of Wisdom, and prayer, and other fundamental truths, you cannot dis-associate those principles from the life and attributes of Joseph F. Smith. He taught them in the one great way that all great principles of truth must be taught, in order to be effective in the lives of men, by living them. Great as were his words, potential as was the great message that he always had to bear to the people, his words and his message were never so forceful or so powerful as was the sermon of his life.

and his works. Above all other men that I have ever known he adhered to the very letter of the law of the gospel. With him there was no deviation from truth. As has been well said, he could never compromise with sin in the least degree, and yet he was possessed of that marvelous faculty of being kind and considerate and compassionate with the sinner, but uncompromising and intolerant with and of the sin. He would never deviate from the strict path of righteousness. And yet to those who had sinned, he held out more of hope and mercy, of encouragement in repentance, more of kindness, more of sympathy and true love than most any other man I have ever known.

President Smith possessed that rare combination of upholding all the laws and standards of the Church and of the gospel, and at the same time extending the hand of helpfulness to those who needed help. Such were his remarkable traits of character that he was indeed a friend to every man, and a truer, a juster, a kinder man, and more considerate friend, has never graced this earth than our late President. His friendship was of that fine quality that always led his friends up, and never under any circumstances encouraged them to do that which was not in accordance with the truth and the law of the Church and the gospel. Every man who really knew him, loved him. Those who did not know him came to love him as they became more intimate with his real motives, and as they understood better the high principles for which he constantly stood. I believe that God so mixed up the elements in him that he was able to stand all of the

temptations, all of the distresses, all of the sorrows and joys of life in a manner that has no parallel among our generation.

Bishop Nibley, I think it was, standing at his grave, said he was the greatest man in the world. I believe that he was. I believe that from every standpoint he came more nearly measuring up to the stature of a man made in the image of God than any other man on God's footstool. It means a great deal to us. I recognize the fact that in our admiration and love we are apt to be extravagant in our praise and in our tribute, but I think that it is only the truth to say that there are no greater men than our late beloved President Joseph F. Smith.

I care not from what angle you view his life. If you will consider his life and his public career, as a public teacher of the people, as a servant in the cause of humanity, there are but few who could equal the record of service that he has made. Indeed, so devotedly did he work for the welfare of the state, for the welfare and the uplift of his people that during the greater portion of his life he gave his whole effort to the good of the common cause.

I think it was President Grant who said the other day that not until long after he had been made the President of the Church did he ever occupy any business positions that brought personal emolument to him. All that he had and all that he was he gave to the people. He believed in service. He believed in that devoted service which gives one's whole life to the people and so he gave his life. He was the greatest of all public servants in this, that he served the souls of men. He

sought to raise the standard of living. He sought to impress the glorious principles of the gospel of truth on the lives of men and women, to raise their standards of life and to enable them to conform their lives with the principles of the gospel; and all that he could do for this cause he did do. No man could do more.

As a father and a husband, as Brother Lyman has just remarked, he had but few if any equals in the history of all time. I have had the opportunity of being somewhat intimate in his homes, and know something of the love which he had for his wives and his children. I have seen the expression of that love in his homes, and have seen the love that he gave reciprocated in the hearts and the actions of those who loved him. Indeed, I never knew a man who had a stronger love for his home than did the President, and I never knew a man whose family loved him more than did his wives and his children. I have seen him go about among his homes, and he had a large family as you know, when at the close of a day his powers were well nigh exhausted, when he had worked from early morning until late at night, go from home to home to plant the loving kiss of a father upon his children and his wives in recognition of the great love that he bore them. And this love was the bond that bound them to him and to each other; and I think it may well be said in truth and with propriety that there are no finer families in all the land than the large, splendid family of Joseph F. Smith.

He was a home builder. In this respect as in other respects he has set a glorious example to the world. He has taught that good homes are

at the foundation of all that is best in life; that the nation itself can never hope to accomplish and achieve its great destiny unless the homes of the people are right; that the home is the foundation of society; and he set the example by making a home from which good citizens came, from which Latter-day Saints came, where could be found always the spirit of the gospel, and wherein are taught the things of God, and wherein are practiced deeds of righteousness. So that in his public life and in his private life he was the great exemplar of the truth of the principles of the gospel of Jesus Christ. He vitalized those principles by living them. He made it plain for men and for women, that they can live the principles of the gospel individually. He taught them that the beauties and the glories of the kingdom of God are to be had by those who will conform their lives to the commandments.

As an advocate of truth, it has been well said President Joseph F. Smith was well nigh without an equal. As a preacher of righteousness he held first place among us. His burning words have entered the hearts of those who have sat under his voice and have stimulated them to higher deeds and to better lives. Why, I have heard his voice ring out under the inspiration of God, in those majestic tones of his, in such a manner as to fairly raise the audience from their seats. You could well imagine men and women rising to their feet as he expounded the glories of the kingdom and cry, "Glory to God" for the way in which he expounded the principles of the gospel of Jesus Christ.

He was not a learned man in the ordinary acceptation of that term.

He had not attended schools and colleges and universities, but he was learned in the great school of experience. He was truly educated. All the latent faculties that God had given to him had been developed and had been augmented until they had reached the very full measure of their power, and that is real education. That is real training. He was truly cultured, truly refined, a gentleman of the highest type and order. All his thoughts and his speech and his life were clean and wholesome and uplifting.

I think perhaps one of the predominant traits of his life was his absolute cleanliness. He was clean in body, he was clean in mind, and he was clean and pure in his soul. The strength of being clean was his. He yielded obedience to the laws of the gospel which require men to be clean and pure. He never took into his body anything that would pollute it, anything that would desecrate it. He was the most forceful of all the teachers of the Word of Wisdom, because he lived the law all his life to the very letter, and his family lived it. He taught it. He abhorred things that were impure and obnoxious to the body. He believed that the tabernacles which God has given us in which to house these God-given spirits of ours were sacred in the sight of God, and he would no more have desecrated his body than he would have desecrated the temple of the Most High. Such was his faith, and such his belief in this divinely given body of ours. I remember how he abhorred the filthy habits of drinking and of smoking, or any of the habits which did not conform to the laws of the gospel. I remember how he inveighed against them,

and yet he loved men and women. And while at times he may have seemed harsh in the condemnation of these practices and in the condemnation of those, too, who persisted in the practice of these things, he loved men and women with his whole soul. He would strive for them. He would pray for them. He would recall them from their sins and their troubles if he could. I know of no man who would have gone farther than he to have reclaimed one who had fallen. Such were his remarkable characteristics that he seemed a friend to everybody at all times. I know that throughout his whole life he was pure and immaculate from sin, and just as freely yielded obedience to all the laws of the gospel, just so freely did God give to him power. Just so did God magnify him and make him great and mighty, giving him a power that has scarcely been known among our own people as among any other people, to draw men to him and to impress them with the greatness of the principles and doctrines of the gospel which he so perfectly lived.

I want to say, my brethren and sisters, that I am indebted to President Joseph F. Smith for the best ideals in my life. I am indebted to him in large measure for my genuine love of the truth. I have taken the best course, that is, the best course that I have taken, in large measure because of the splendid example that he set. Never did he meet me and shake my hand without thrilling me with his own goodness and with the desire to try to emulate, in small measure at least, the splendid example that he set. Never have I seen his venerable face without being encouraged in the work of God. Never have

I heard him announce the great truths of the gospel without being built up in my most holy faith. I don't know how I can hope to pay the debt that I owe to him, unless it be, perchance, to try to do the work that he loved so well and to which he gave his life and his all. I don't know how I can ever in any measure repay him for the influence which he has had upon my life, unless it be by doing the things that he called me to do, and by attempting to serve in my weak way in the same manner in which he served in his most efficient way.

I loved him as a son loves a father. I was present at his home the day that he died, or at least the night before. I remember shaking hands with him, and saying what I felt must be my last goodbye to him. As I shook his hand he drew me to him, and he planted upon my lips a kiss that I can never forget. I shall try as long as the memory of that embrace remains with me to live true to the great principles which he so loved, and while I cannot do one single thing to help him, while I cannot do one single thing to add to his greatness or to the love which you bore for him, all that I can do is to dedicate and consecrate my life, my service, whatever talent God has given me, to the great cause which he loved and for which he gave his noble life.

If he has helped you, my brethren and sisters, as he has helped me, will you not join with me in the very high resolve to dedicate our lives and our services to the gospel of Jesus Christ, to uphold the high standards that he upheld, and to the very close of our days to love God as he loved God, to be parents such as was he, and to love humanity with that same tender devotion.

and love that he exhibited toward all men? To this end, my brethren and sisters, may we devote ourselves, lending all our might, our strength and the best that is within us, I humbly pray God, in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

ELDER JAMES E. TALMAGE

No chance in the call of President Joseph F. Smith—One of the real apostles of the Lord Jesus Christ—The living embodiment of the truth that schools and colleges do not make the scholar—A missionary from boyhood and a missionary to-day.

"Now the Lord had shown unto me, Abraham, the intelligences that were organized before the world was, and among all these there were many of the noble and great ones. And God saw these souls, that they were good; and he stood in the midst of them, and he said, These I will make my rulers. For he stood among those that were spirits, and he saw that they were good; and he said unto me, Abraham, thou art one of them, thou wast chosen before thou wast born."

If you will substitute the name of our modern prophet for the ancient patriarch, you will have a conception of my firm belief as to the primeval state and the ante-mortal existence of President Joseph F. Smith. There was no chance in his call. The barefoot boy, the 15 year old missionary on the islands of the sea, the more experienced and mature proclaimer of the gospel in this and in distant lands, each was the prophet in the making, the leader in school, the ruler in preparation.

We do but honor ourselves in thus assembling to pay tribute to his memory. Do you think that our feeble words can alter his status?

Do you think that this memorial service is held for him? I pray you consider. He could withstand such inexcusable forgetfulness on our part as would have been manifest in letting the occasion pass unmarked; but we cannot do it, for our own self-respect; nor could we quell the desire in our heart, springing from the well of living water and genuine love for our dear departed brother and leader, to permit the time to pass without some expression from us as to the lessons he has taught. He was a man such as the prophets foresaw and whom they foretold.

In the inspired writing of the Scripture of these days, days of fulness, days of relative finality, the days immediately preceding the coming of Christ the Lord, tell of the spirit of hatred that would be abroad. They tell of the confusion that would be rife; they tell of the blessings that God would give unto the world; and chief among these was the blessing of real men. Don't you remember His promise. "Behold I will make a man more precious than fine gold, even a man than the golden wedge of Ophir." Such gift found a realization in the person and ministry of President Joseph F. Smith. No man can ever take his place. There is a uniqueness about the real prophet, the prophet of God. He has no successor, and by the same rule he had no predecessor. True, other men may have filled the office that this one filled, as other men shall fill the place after he departs; but there is a distinctiveness about each of God's leaders that makes his place sacred. And yet shall there be other prophets in Zion as there have been mighty ones in the past; but no one has filled the place of

the other. Without the special ministry of President Joseph F. Smith, the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints could not be, and therefore would not be, what it is today. He was foreappointed and foreordained for the particular work of his epoch, of the work and ministry.

I shall not repeat the many things in the way of personal experiences with President Joseph F. Smith that make me sure he was the great man we have had portrayed before us; but I do bear witness to you that Joseph F. Smith was one of the real apostles of the Lord Jesus Christ. I have listened to his ringing words of testimony and warning before the assemblies of thousands, and I have sat with him, on very rare occasions, alone; and on occasions less rare, but still not common, with my brethren and associates, I have heard him preach in conversation, and I have never seen his face so enlightened nor his frame so thrilled with power as when he was bearing testimony of the Christ. He seemed to me to know Jesus Christ as a man knows his friend.

President Joseph F. Smith has been referred to on many an occasion as one of the last links connecting the present generation with that of the early days of the Church. But though that speaks of the long ago when measured in terms of years, did you ever think of the marvellous fact that President Joseph F. Smith was always fully abreast of the times? He was never behind, but always up to date, and down to date, in everything that was good. There was no clinging to old fashioned methods when better means had been evolved and proved practical with him. Scores

of times before he passed away I said, as now I shall venture to say again, he was the living embodiment of the truth that schools and colleges do not make the scholar. To me he was one of the best read men with whom I have had to do and deal. Did you ever hear him use faulty language, poor English? He was no orator, and I am glad of it, for to him oratory and all associated with the name bore the tinge of bombast and verbal display, and he did not know how to talk in painted color pictures; but he possessed that gift which is as far above oratory as prophecy is above necromancy, the gift of eloquence. He did not speak to the ears, but right straight to the hearts of men.

Well, where is he now? He was permitted shortly before his passing to have a glimpse into the hereafter, and to learn where he would soon be at work. He was a preacher of righteousness on earth, he is a preacher of righteousness today. He was a missionary from his boyhood up, and he is a missionary today amongst those who have not yet heard the gospel, though they have passed from mortality into the spirit world. I cannot conceive of him as otherwise than busily engaged in the work of the Master. And had any one tried, or should any one now try to distract his attention and lead him into other paths, he could answer without sacrilege in the very words of the Master: *Wist ye not that I must be about my Father's business, who is in heaven.*

The Lord enable us to be in a measure like unto him, fit to take his hand and deserving of a smile from his countenance when we shall meet him again, I pray, in the

name of the Lord, Jesus Christ. Amen.

ELDER JOSEPH FIELDING SMITH

My brethren and sisters, it is not my purpose to detain you. Matters this afternoon come home to me with such force that I feel that I would not dare to undertake to express myself, nor could I do it, I think, if I should try. All that I desire to say is, amen to that which has been spoken by the brethren who have occupied the time.

The choir and congregation sang: "Do what is right."

Benediction by Elder Arthur F. Barnes.

OUTDOOR MEETING.

An open air meeting was held at the Bureau of Information Building at 2 o'clock p. m., Sunday, June 1, 1919, Elder Melvin J. Ballard, of the Council of the Twelve presiding.

Music was furnished by the Bel-Canto Ladies' Glee Club, Ivie Ensign conductor.

The Glee Club and congregation sang: "We thank thee, O God, for a prophet."

Prayer was offered by Elder Henry H. Rolapp.

The Glee Club sang: "Perfect Prayer."

ELDER MELVIN J. BALLARD

In harmony with the announcement of President Grant this morning, and in continuation of the spirit of this morning's meeting, the meetings this afternoon will be devoted in further tribute to the memory of our late de-

parted leader, President Joseph F. Smith.

I take pleasure in introducing to you a man whom you all well know, Bishop Charles W. Nibley. Perhaps no man in the Church knew President Smith better, was more intimately acquainted with him, than was our worthy bishop, who will now address us.

ELDER CHARLES W. NIBLEY

(Presiding Bishop of the Church.)

I am asked to perform what to me is a rather difficult task, at this memorial service for the late President Joseph F. Smith. I knew him very intimately. Forty-two years ago, when I was a young man, he called me to go with him to Liverpool, England, there to take charge under his direction, of the business affairs of the European mission. From that day until the day of his death, I knew him well. I know his history, I know his family, I have lived in his home—been, indeed, as a member of his family; and so I can speak of him as I know him.

Joseph F. Smith was one man picked out of millions of men. There was none like him. In his particular sphere, in his life and his life's work, I think that as an exemplar he has never been equalled. I know that is high praise, and I do not wish to make any comparisons with others, but to me he was the most God-like, the most God-fearing, and the least man-fearing of any man I ever knew in all my days.

He had a perfect knowledge of the truth of this great Latter-day work. He had endured much for it, he had sacrificed much—losing

his father when he was not yet six years of age, losing his mother when he was twelve or thirteen years of age, going alone, so to speak, in the world, with only friends who knew his father and mother to look after him. President Young took him under his care, or at least had a watchful eye over him; and in early days, as you know, sent him on a mission to the Sandwich Islands, when the boy was but fifteen years of age.

I have heard him tell how, journeying down through the southern country to Los Angeles, they were followed by a band of hungry Indians—this little missionary party, among whom were John T. Caine, who used to represent us in Congress, William W. Cluff, and some fifteen others. They were down on the desert, this side of Los Vegas, and these Indians became a little troublesome. Joseph F. Smith and one other of the party—I forget who, were a little slow in getting their horses saddled, and the others of the company rode off or drove off, leaving these two behind. The Indians became more bold when the larger part of the company went on, and as President Smith was saddling his horse, pulling up the strap, he looked into the barrel of his own gun. An Indian had grabbed his gun from the saddle and pointed it at him. The boy, who was strong and an athlete, smiled merely; but quickly getting under his horse's neck, he grabbed that Indian, who pretended at first to play, and in the tussle, wrenched the rifle from his hands.

I mention this to show the fearlessness of the youth. I never knew as brave a man. No number of men could daunt him or dis-

courage him or put him down. If he knew he was right he stood before the whole world and sustained and manfully contended for the right as he understood it.

On this mission to the Sandwich Island, he encountered severe hardships. I remember on our first trip over to the Islands, and I was over there on four trips with him, that sailing among the different small islands, he would point out to me such and such a place: "There is where I lived so long in a little straw hut"—which burned down or which was destroyed by flood. Here was another place where he had lain sick and where the good Hawaiian people had ministered to him. This experience, and the other, he would tell as we journeyed along, all of which, if I had time to relate, are faith-promoting and inspiring, and would point out to you the manliness of the young boy—for he was then, as I told you, fifteen or sixteen years of age.

He remained there on the Islands until he was nineteen years of age, when he returned home at the call of President Brigham Young, at the time of the move south and when Johnston's army was marching here for the avowed purpose of disturbing the Latter-day Saints.

On a later occasion, when we arrived at the harbor of Honolulu, we were met by the Royal Hawaiian Band. This band was instructed to come up to the "Mormon" meeting house—a quite prominent place in the city of Honolulu, and play for the people in honor of President Smith and his company. In the midst of the proceedings, after we were gathered in the meeting house and President Smith

was conversing in the native tongue with this one and the other one, and shaking hands with all, there was led into the room an old Hawaiian lady, tottering, blind—led because she could not see. The moment he saw her he turned from everyone else and rushed to this dear old native lady. She was calling "Iosepa, Iosepa"—Joseph, Joseph, her Joseph. He rushed to her and gathered her in his arms, and with tears streaming down his cheeks, said: "My mamma, my mamma, my dear old mamma." And he turned to me, wiping his cheeks, and said, "Charlie, she tended me while I was sick, more than fifty years ago, and here she is now; should I not bless her and love her?"

From courage to tenderness—for the bravest are the tenderest always—what nobleness and grandeur of character may we not expect between these two angles.

In the maintaining and rearing of a large family you all know what manner of a man he was. A man is known by the work he performs, by the labor he does. Give him the opportunity and we will see what he can do with it. If he does his best, well and good. Joseph F. Smith always did his best. He was just in his family. He was the kindest man I ever knew, and the tenderest, most loving and compassionate to little children. I have seen him when one of his little babies was sick, walk the floor at night for hours together with that babe in his arms, tenderly caring for it and nursing it—caring for it better, I think, than I ever saw any mother care for her child, so tender was he, so loving, so pitiful, so compassionate.

He was a man, take him for all in

all. I do not know where you will ever see his like again. You can imagine, from the association I was privileged to have with President Joseph F. Smith, especially during the later years of his life—and indeed for more than forty years of his life—what the loss of him means to me. I feel at times alone.

As President Grant said this morning in the Tabernacle, no two preachers of righteousness like him and his son, Hyrum M., has this Church ever produced. I endorse that sentiment.

He was a manly man, a man of God, a man whom it was an honor to know and a pleasure to be with, a man whose example has meant much to me—and indeed, had it not been for him, I know that I could not have accomplished what little I may have done in this world. In a way he was my guiding star. I did not worship him—I worship only God, and that I try to do faithfully—but he was more like unto God, the most godlike man that I ever knew in all my life.

Such is my testimony concerning Joseph F. Smith. I love his memory. I revere his name. There is not anything I would not do for him or his, that I possibly could do. And loving him and his, so likewise I try to love my brethren and sisters, with the same spirit that he loved the brethren and sisters of this Church, and the people of the world as well—for he was not narrow.

Some people have thought Joseph F. Smith was a narrow-minded man. His comprehension and vision were the broadest, most extended, most glorious, of any man's I have ever known. He could grasp and comprehend futur-

ity. He knew what was in store for those who served God and kept his commandments. He knew the principles of the gospel. They were so thoroughly imbued and indoctrinated in him that they were a part of his very being. It was natural for him to be a Latter-day Saint, and he was willing to sacrifice for the work, and he did sacrifice. Without father, without mother, alone, he sacrificed as much as the Lord required of him.

Let me beseech you, my brethren and sisters, that we get some of the spirit of sacrifice in our hearts, that we, too, may be willing, and may say before God: "I'll go where you want me to go, dear Lord; I'll work where you want me to work; I'll try to be what you want me to be."

If we have this in our hearts, we will grow in some humble way, at least, in small degree, to be like this the noblest of men whom I have ever known, Joseph F. Smith.

ELDER MELVIN J. BALLARD

Although we have lost our beloved leader, we rejoice that he has left with us an illustrious posterity. We feel grateful that the children of President Smith are following in his footsteps, and I take pleasure in introducing one of his worthy sons, Bishop David A. Smith, of the Presiding Bishopric, who will now address us.

ELDER DAVID A. SMITH

(Of the Presiding Bishopric.)

My brethren and sisters.—When I look over this assembly and think of the thousands of Latter-day Saints who are meeting in the Assembly Hall and in the Tabernacle,

my heart is filled with joy; yet I cannot approach this task at this time without a feeling of sadness. All my life, I have known President Joseph F. Smith. As a little fellow, I only saw him occasionally, and knew him best through the letters he wrote to me, as it was his custom to write personal letters to his children when absent from home. And during my early childhood he was away from home on missions most of the time. But when at home, no father ever took more pleasure or greater delight in his children than he did.

I remember when Bishop Nibley, as he has said, made it a custom to call at our home occasionally. He was almost as much a father to us as our own father, and we learned to call him Uncle Charlie. I did not know for many years that Charles W. Nibley was not my own uncle.

For over eleven years it has been my privilege to be nearer, closer to President Joseph F. Smith, I believe, than any other man. Morning, noon, and night, I have been with him. Having been honored by him, having been trusted with many of his private affairs, being urged on by Bishop Nibley, who loved him and knew what work he was doing, I was finally given much of his private work to do. And when, today, in coming to this conference, I recall the fact that never before for over eleven years had he attended a general conference on this block that it was not my privilege to accompany him here and home again, you can, therefore, imagine to a small degree at least, the reason for that feeling of sorrow which comes to me at this time, for I loved him and miss him greatly.

It is not because he loved me

more than he did other of his boys that I was with him perhaps more than they, for President Smith had no favorites. It could not honestly be said of him that he loved one boy more than he loved another, or that he loved one of his girls more than he loved another, or that he loved one of his wives more than he loved another. As Bishop Nibley has said, President Smith was a just man, and he loved his wives and he loved his children, and tried to treat them as wives should be treated and as children should be treated—no favorites among them, and they loved him and tried to honor him. I was greatly honored, and more so than some of the others, because of the position I had been blessed with, which gave to me a greater degree of freedom, which permitted me to associate with him more and to assume part of his responsibilities, which would gladly have been assumed by any one of his children had any one of the others been placed in the same position and given the same opportunity.

I rejoice, my brethren and sisters, today, in the fact that I had such a father. And O, I pray God that I shall prove worthy of such parentage. Think of the honor that has come to me: honored by you, my brethren and my sisters; honored of God, having been permitted to come through this lineage which has been so blessed of him. O, I am grateful for the blessings I have received, the blessings that I do receive from day to day, and I want to live worthy of the confidence that has been placed in me by you and by this people. I want to serve the Lord that I will be entitled to his blessings.

When I look over the congrega-

tions of the Saints in their conferences, when I am permitted to meet with you in your homes and in your meetinghouses. I rejoice in that privilege, because there I always find the Spirit of the Lord. I feel it. I come away filled with it; it is that same influence that has caused you to come here today and stand for two hours; that which has caused others to crowd into the buildings, and what for? To hear the word of God, for we are seeking knowledge and strength that we may better serve the Lord. We know that just so far as we have in our hearts a desire to learn of his will, we are blessed and strengthened and are better able to carry on the work and the responsibility that rests upon us as Latter-day Saints, and I pray sincerely that I may have an interest in your prayers, in your faith, the sustaining influence of which will enable me to do that which is required of me, that I may better uphold and emulate the noble example which has been set me by my beloved father.

May God bless us all is my prayer, and I ask it in the name of Jesus. Amen.

ELDER MELVIN J. BALLARD

We have another long-time associate of President Smith with us in Bishop John Wells, of the Presiding Bishopric of the Church, who will now address us.

ELDER JOHN WELLS

(Of the Presiding Bishopric.)

I hope I shall be able to make myself heard to this large circle of my brethren and sisters who have gathered about this building this afternoon.

I am thankful to the Lord for

the gospel of Jesus Christ and to all that it has done for me. I appreciate sincerely my membership in the Church as a Latter-day Saint. Many honors and privileges have come to me through my associations with my brethren and sisters. I am thankful, I am grateful, to be associated with the good men who preside in this Church. They are men after God's own heart; men who are full of faith and integrity and who have set me a splendid example; men who are willing to do everything within their power to serve God and to bring about his purposes on the earth. The Lord has established this great Latter-day work. It is a marvelous work and a wonder, wherein the wisdom of the worldly wise shall perish and the understanding of the prudent shall come to naught. It is only upon this idea that we grasp or understand the magnitude of the work that the Lord has established in these latter days, so that he may bring about the gathering of the House of Israel and the establishment of his kingdom upon the earth.

It has been my pleasure and privilege, as an officer and an employee of the Church, to become personally acquainted with the late President Joseph F. Smith. I remember him well, from the year 1893, when I was an employee in the Presiding Bishop's Office. I called upon him for counsel, many of the leading brethren being away, and some of the duties of the Presiding Bishop's Office had at that time devolved upon me. I waited upon President Smith and asked his counsel and advice concerning what to me was a very intricate problem, and my first impression of President Smith was that he was sound

in judgment, and had a wonderful comprehension of human nature. It was my first interview with him, and we sat side by side talking on the problem I presented to him. I had looked upon him previous to this as a great man because of his exalted position as one of the First Presidency, but when I had concluded that interview, I had a more profound impression of his greatness than ever before.

At one time I was coming across the continent. I met President Smith and some of his family at Omaha. We traveled westward in the same car. I was sick with something akin to sea-sickness, caused through traveling several days on the train. I appreciated his kindly sympathy. He blessed me, and that blessing I will never forget, because it came from the Prophet of the Lord and his blessing gave me peace and rest for most of the night. That same night, as the train was moving across the plains of Wyoming, President Smith stood at the back of the car taking a rest from a long, tedious day's journey. Any of you who have traveled day after day in a railway train know what relief it is to stand up or move around for awhile. I tell you this incident to show you how President Smith was susceptible to the Still Small Voice. While standing at the back of the train he heard a voice telling him to go into the car, and he did so. Later he was walking up and down the corridor and was told by the same Voice to sit down. He did so. A few moments later the engine ran off the track and tilted the train on an angle which scared us all. Had President Smith been in the back of the train or walking in the corridor he might have been

very seriously injured, but the Lord had regard for him and he was prompted by a Voice which he understood so well, and he acted accordingly. President Smith has always been susceptible to the influence of the Spirit of the Lord. He knew its promptings, and what they meant. As he heard the Still Small Voice directing him and inspiring him, he knew that Voice and knew it well.

President Smith was a kind man, kind to employees as well as to his friends and family. He frequently gathered the employees of the Bishop's Office at the Beehive House and other places, and mingled with them in social gatherings, showing that even with the dignity of his position and calling he was always the same unaffected and kindly-disposed man.

I revere his memory. I revere him for many things. I will never forget as long as I live the blessing he gave to me when he ordained me a bishop. I never want to forget those sweet, kindly words, the admonition and counsel that he gave to me before I assumed my duties as a counselor to Bishop Charles W. Nibley.

I feel today that if he were here and could tell us what he would like us to do, he would say, brethren and sisters, roll on this great work, be prepared to carry the message of the gospel to the nations of the earth who are now being liberated, sustain the presiding brethren of this Church, whom the Lord has sent to preside in the various quorums and departments, sustain them with all your might, mind and strength, and help them to bring about and accomplish the purposes that God has designed to accomplish in these latter days.

I sincerely pray, my brethren and sisters, that the spirit of this great latter day work may be in our hearts, that we may pray for the spirit of it; exercise our office and calling, that we may never be ashamed of the gospel of Jesus Christ, for it is the power of God unto salvation to those who receive it.

May God add his blessings, I pray in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

An instrumental trio was given by Mae, Alice, and Rachel Andersen; Leone Amott, accompanist.

ELDER MELVIN J. BALLARD

The choice of President Smith as leader of the Church a remarkable evidence of the truthfulness of the work—Testimony of his noble character and work—The tremendous influence of two mothers contrasted—The mantle of President Smith has fallen upon President Grant.

There is no task that I have been asked to perform which gives me greater pleasure and more real happiness than on this memorial day to speak of our late beloved prophet-leader, President Joseph F. Smith, whom, like my brethren who have preceded me, I love with that same love and affection I had for my own father—for he was a father to me and to every man and woman who became acquainted with him who loved the Lord and sought to keep his commandments. I bear witness that President Smith was a lover of such men and women.

The selection of President Smith to preside over this Church, as in the case of his predecessors, is one of the remarkable evidences of the truthfulness of the work called "Mormonism," that God is in it,

that his hand has been over this work and guiding the destinies of this Church, and he is indeed the source from which light and truth and knowledge have come to the men who have directed the affairs of this Church.

I recall many years ago being in the city of Nauvoo, attending a celebration of newspaper men of the state of Illinois, in that city. The representative of one of the leading newspapers of that state was giving the history of the city of Nauvoo. He told of its growth until it became a city of twenty thousand people when Chicago was only a small village and St. Louis on the south was only a trading post. He told of the prejudice that inspired the hearts of those who drove the Latter-day Saints from Nauvoo, and how Nauvoo had gone down until it had but twelve hundred souls and not a railroad yet. He told of the vandalism that prompted the burning of the Nauvoo temple, and that even while the blackened walls of that temple stood, the steamboats stood half a day at the wharf to allow passengers to come and view its ruins. And then he told of the travels of the Latter-day Saints in their pilgrimage across the plains to these valleys of the mountains, how they had made the desert to blossom as the rose; and said, "Maybe God likes the 'Mormons' better than he does bigots and vandals, if not, why doesn't he give the inhabitants of Nauvoo better evidence that it was all right to drive the 'Mormons' out?"

I felt as I listened to his utterances, that any man who would follow this Church, and become acquainted with its leaders must be blind indeed if he cannot see that

a power greater than man's has attended it and the men who have led and directed it.

From the days of the Prophet Joseph Smith until this hour, I feel there are evidences of the wisdom of an allwise and overruling Providence in the selection of the men who have stood at the head of this Church, and it is manifest in the result of their administrations. Where could we have found a man like unto the Prophet Joseph Smith, who could have done the work that the Prophet did in receiving the revelations of God—naturally a spiritually minded man, a prophet selected from beforehand, even as in ancient days.

It might also be said of each one of these men down to the present prophet of the Lord, Heber J. Grant, ordained prophets before they came into the world; God knew them; he selected them for their hour and for their time, took them through a schooling of experience, of trial and hardship and preparation, each to be his mouth-piece to reveal the truths of the everlasting gospel, the organization of the Church, the doctrines of the Church, as in the case of the Prophet Joseph; or his prophet-leader, Brigham Young, whom he had in schooling, as we heard this morning, and in training and preparation to accomplish the great pilgrimage of the Latter-day Saints into these valleys of the mountains; and likewise the men whom God raised up thereafter, each in his turn the man for the hour, and the Lord was with him, and the Lord has been with our late President Joseph F. Smith—we are all witnesses to that.

I recall my early recollections of President Smith with a good deal

of pleasure—because I admired him, he was to me my ideal, I tried in my life, as I became acquainted with him, to be as he was. I knew as a child, for the Lord revealed it unto me, that President Smith would some day preside over this Church; and in connection with that I saw many things that President Smith would do; and when, last October, he stood before the congregations of the Saints, feeble and weak as he was, my soul was filled with great sorrow, because I knew that all that the Lord had for President Smith to do had been done. That which I saw as a child was fulfilled, finished, completed. And yet there was a feeling of great regret that we should soon have to part with him and let him go on to the work which the Father has prepared him to do in that realm where he is now.

It was my privilege, I presume, to deliver the last public address that President Smith ever listened to, being the last speaker of the last Conference of the Church. And I recall, as I had concluded, he grasped my hand and pressed it and gave me a blessing that I shall not forget, for my whole soul was thrilled with his blessing and with his love.

I bear witness that he was a man who loved the souls of the children of men in the world—not only those who belong to the Church; for no man has done more, than he, looking toward the establishment of the work of the Lord among the nations of the earth. He has builded more meeting houses in the mission field, and mission headquarters, than in the rest of the years of the Church put together. His heart was in the preaching of the gospel, and so he lent

himself to uphold and sustain those who were engaged in this work.

His coming into the world was at a time when his own father and his own uncle the Prophet, were incarcerated in a foul dungeon, with chains forged upon them by a blacksmith, condemned to be shot, confined in this condition for the gospel's sake, held as hostages for the Church, a ransom for the balance of the people that they would leave the state of Missouri; the father, Hyrum, was separated from his beloved companion, the mother of Joseph F. Smith; and under these conditions, Joseph F. Smith was born into the world, without a father's love and protection for the mother of the child; there was one occasion when the enemy ransacked, as they were accustomed to do, the homes of the Latter-day Saints, and invaded the home of Mary Fielding Smith, the mother of President Joseph F. Smith; and in their anxiety to find treasure, tumbled bedclothes over and finally succeeded in almost exterminating the life of President Smith—for he was buried under bedclothing when rescued by his mother after the invader had left their home. The boy was so black that life was almost extinguished, but the hand of the Lord was over him; from that moment the Spirit of the Lord attended him in the midst of trials, in the midst of vicissitudes, and has preserved his life marvelously to complete that which the Lord had in store for him to do.

And I thought of him as a child. How few boys would have shown the courage, the manhood, that he did, while scarcely eight years of age, driving a yoke of oxen part way across the plains, and then

when a little over nine years of age, in 1848, driving two yoke of oxen the entire distance from the Missouri river to these valleys of the mountains, taking a man's part. But as I have thought of it, I know what was in President Smith's heart. He did not take the credit unto himself. A very large part of that credit shall forever belong to his illustrious mother, Mary Fielding Smith. He often said it, and I know if he were here today he would be delighted to have these words of praise spoken of that good woman who was his inspiration in his childhood.

I have thought of it in connection with the sorrowful experiences that came into the life of the descendants of the Prophet Joseph Smith—you remember that the catastrophe that took away the Prophet Joseph Smith also ended the career of the Patriarch Hyrum Smith, the father of President Joseph F. Smith; and the wives of these two men were shocked to be thus bereaved of their support, their loving husbands, the fathers of their children; and then the persecutions did not end with the martyrdom of Joseph and Hyrum Smith, but centered on the Church, and in those perilous times, seeking to find an asylum, a home for the Saints in the place appointed by the Lord, and unto which the Prophet Joseph said they would go, President Young started to lead the Latter-day Saints to these valleys of the mountains. I remember listening to the testimony of a daughter of Samuel H. Smith in the city of St. Louis, many years ago, to the effect that during those days President Young sent an invitation to Emma Smith, the wife of the Prophet Joseph, to furnish

conveyance for herself and children, and provisions and means to take them to the mountains, but it was refused, and Emma would not come with the Latter-day Saints. But I never read in any of the histories where Mary Fielding Smith received such an invitation; but rather on her own initiative this woman gathered up her children, made the trip down to St. Louis, purchased provisions and equipment, financing herself, with the help of her brother and made the journey to these valleys of the mountains. Surely she had love and good fellowship and support of the brethren, but I contrast the action of these two women. I do not wish to say one disparaging word of Emma Smith, the wife of the Prophet, for she went through much affliction, and much did she do for the comfort of the Prophet and the building up of the work of God; but the blow that fell upon her in the death of her husband, and the weakness of the flesh exhibited in that hour, were more than she had the courage to endure, and so she faltered, she weakened, and fell by the wayside, and took her children off with her.

I have thought of what a tremendous influence the example of these two mothers has had. On the one hand Emma has turned all the posterity of the Prophet through herself and the Prophet away from the Church—aliens to the truth that God has revealed and established; while Mary Fielding Smith turned at the very fountain of that stream the posterity of her illustrious husband, Hyrum Smith, into the channels of the Church, into the truth; and here they stand a mighty host, increas-

ing, and will continue to grow as the generations come.

When the President was taken away, in the imaginations of my own mind by the enlightenment of the Spirit of God that came to me, I saw President Joseph F. Smith received on the other side. Tongue cannot tell the joy that was in Hyrum Smith's heart when he received his beloved son, Joseph F. Smith. Joy beyond expression was in the heart of Hyrum Smith when his true, tried, noble, and God-fearing wife, the inspiration, the protection of her son Joseph Fielding—came to him.

I thought of it in contrast to the feelings of the Prophet when his son and his wife Emma came. His must have been a sorrowful greeting.

All honor to Mary Fielding Smith, the mother of the boy Joseph F., who, in his tender years turned him right, led him into the paths of truth, started him on the way. And then all honor and credit to the sterling character of that noble man of God who did follow the footsteps of his father and his mother and wavered not.

He was not privileged to obtain an education like others, nevertheless he was a student, and I do not think that a man ever preached the gospel of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints more eloquently, used better language, more perfect and choice and finished, than President Joseph F. Smith. I remember, following an address he delivered in Portland at the dedication of our church several years ago, a prominent lawyer in Portland, himself an orator, said, "I have never heard a finer utterance from a man than President Smith delivered."

"Why," said he, "you must be a lawyer, for you arranged your argument—everything was done in such a logical way, most convincing." He was an all-round educated man. As a citizen in this city, he has left his mark, that will never be effaced. I am told that it was through his influence more than any other man's that Liberty Park belongs to this city. When he fought for that blessing to the people, he stood almost alone, but won out.

There was a time, as President Grant remarked this morning, when men doubted the financial ability of President Smith, schooled in poverty, knowing the burden of debt. Yet the Lord had prepared him to come into the Presidency of the Church during its most prosperous financial period, to take charge of the affairs when it would require men of great financial ability, looking at it from a human point of view, to succeed. But he had it—God-given financial ability came to the prophet; he had the inherent qualities and the willing spirit, listened to the voice that prompted and directed him, so that he had to do with the finances of the Church during its most prosperous period, and handled, I presume, more funds of this Church than all the other presidents put together; and the Lord at the same time blessed him, as has been remarked, to be the greatest preacher of righteousness of this dispensation. It does seem marvelous what the Lord has done. President Smith's wisdom in financial affairs excelled all his companions, for he was guided by the light of the Lord.

Now, my brethren and sisters, I have no doubt but that President Smith is busy and active. How I

want to live to go where he is! I do not care whether the streets are paved with gold, whether there are diamonds and jasper in the walls. I do not care what kind of place it is. If I can go where President Smith has gone and be with him and men like him, it will be heaven to me, I want to be there.

I realize that I cannot come there by wishing, but that I must follow the example of men like President Smith if I shall ever come to be associated with them; and so his life is like an anchor sent out from that world to which he has gone, to my soul, and I hope it shall be to all the Latter-day Saints, pulling us, beckoning us, calling us unto that realm to which he has gone, where he will be honored, as are those with whom he is associated.

I want to say to you that this generation, who did not receive the Prophet Joseph Smith, who have not listened to the testimony of President Joseph F. Smith and the elders of this Church, shall yet hear them and honor their names and receive from them the message of the everlasting gospel in the spirit world, or they shall never be saved. God said in the beginning, that this generation should hear the message of this gospel through the men to whom he revealed himself. Men and women who die shall not see Peter, they shall not look upon the face of the Redeemer of the world, they shall not have Paul to come and visit them; but they shall have the elders of this Church, whom the Lord sent to them in the earth; and they shall receive this gospel from none other, for the Lord will vindicate them, and he will have them honored. He will not discredit them. And when they go to the other side, we shall find stand-

ing in places of honor, representing the Lord Jesus Christ, men like President Joseph F. Smith, who will be given greater authority and greater power than they ever had upon the earth. He is not shorn of anything because he is gone from this world. The place and position which belongs to him is one of greater presidency, greater influence and power and authority than he has ever had in the earth; for over there are countless billions of our Father's children who are receiving this gospel and they shall come under the administration of the elders of the Church who have been faithful; and presidency and power and authority shall belong to President Smith forever and ever, among the redeemed and the sanctified in the eternal world.

I bear witness to you that the mantle of the Prophet has fallen upon his successor, President Heber J. Grant. I am a witness of this. I know that he is a prophet of the living God, and the Lord has raised him up. The Lord has had him in schooling and in training, so that he will be a wise and prudent man, a true successor of President Joseph F. Smith; and in the heart of President Grant is the spirit of humility and of faithfulness and of devotion to the Lord; and the inspiration of the Lord rests upon him, that is my witness; and the Lord will use him. He will not do just exactly what President Smith did—there was a day of material progress and of enlarging the boundaries of the Church, a time of material prosperity and growth for the Church and for the membership of the Church, all of which was right and splendid, and conducted successfully; but the time has come when the Church must also grow

spiritually, and must return with greater devotion to the standards of our fathers, to the true and living God and the keeping of the Word of Wisdom, in the payment of our tithing, in saving our prayers, in seeking to discharge the great responsibility that rests upon us to carry the gospel to the nations of the earth, and ceasing to excuse ourselves because we are financially involved or because we have been once—and sending our boys in our stead. We must go ourselves, even as President Smith did. He never stopped or hesitated or said that he would have to be excused because he was indebted, but went at each call; and we must get that spirit again, for the hour of preaching the gospel once again to the nations of the earth has come, where thousands will be needed to cry, after this day of chastisement, repentance to the nations of the earth. And it shall not surprise me if the chief characteristic of President Grant's administration shall be the spiritual awakening and growth and progress of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

As we followed President Smith, let us follow our leader today. He is the spokesman of the Lord. The Lord has his program to work out; and so far as I am concerned, and I hope it shall be true of every member of this Church, we shall be willing to listen to the voice of the leader today. All honor to the leaders of the past. They filled their niche, their place, their station, completed their work. But the work of God is not finished in the earth. It has only partly completed what God ordained it to do. And those of us who remain must seize the banner and carry this work off victorious, to glorify the

names of those who have been identified with this work in the days that are past, and to receive honor and place and position with them in the eternal world, and vindicate the word of our Father in his blessings and promises to those who would enter into sacred covenants to keep the commandments of the Lord.

I rejoice to be identified with this work. In my soul I am thankful for a standing in this Church. I feel my weakness in appearing before the Latter-day Saints in the responsibilities that have come to me. When President Grant informed me that it was the will of the Lord, and that the brethren had approved of that decision, that I should become a special witness for the Lord Jesus Christ, I was overwhelmed, because I did not feel that I was worthy of any such thing; and I answered him that if I believed that I could be worthy to be a special witness of the Lord Jesus Christ, an apostle, it would be the happiest hour of my life; for I look upon it as the highest honor that can come to a man on the earth; but my standard of what kind of men they ought to be was so great, so far above what I am, that I did not know if I could measure up to that standard or not; but

if the Lord wanted me, as I had sung, and as I had tried to live,— I'll go where he wants me to go, I'll say what he wants me to say, I'll be what he wants me to be; and if the Lord was willing and the brethren would be patient with me, then with all my heart, mind and soul, I would try to be the kind of man that the Lord wanted me to be, and fulfil this calling, not as a master, but as a servant of the people; not that I am any better than thousands of my brethren, but just because the Lord sees something in me that he can use at this time, and I am willing that he shall use it to the glory of his name.

God bless and sanctify this conference and this gathering, that we shall keep in our minds the noble example of our illustrious leader who is gone, that we may to the close of our lives be as true as he was, to the truth, and find, as I am sure we shall, salvation in the kingdom of God with him and with all the faithful who have gone before, I ask in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

The Glee Club sang: "Hail to the Prince of Peace."

The closing prayer was offered by Elder Benjamin Goddard, of the Bureau of Information.

SECOND DAY.

In the Tabernacle, Monday, June 2, 1919, 10 a. m.

The congregation was called to order by President Heber J. Grant who presided.

The choir and congregation sang: "High on the mountain top."

Prayer was offered by Elder Duncan M. McAllister.

Murray K. Roberts sang the solo: "My Faith in Thee."

two of whom saw active service at the front in France.

PRIESTHOOD.

There has been a better attendance of the priesthood at the ward weekly meetings but there are still 9,078 persons who hold the priesthood whom the Bishops report are willing to labor but have not been assigned to any duties in the stake or ward.

TITHES.

There has been a considerable increase in the amount of tithes paid for the year 1918. The tithing has been well handled by the Bishops. Very little loss has been incurred, except through the failure to find a market for the large potato crop of the year 1917.

TEMPLES.

There were 175,525 baptisms for the dead performed in the temples, and there were 78,001 endowments for the living and the dead. The Hawaiian Temple is now practically completed at a cost of about \$200,000.00. The Cardston Temple is nearing completion and will cost, when finished, about \$600,000.00.

SACRAMENT MEETINGS.

In consequence of the quarantine and conditions prevailing during the epidemic of influenza in the latter part of the year 1918, the attendance at Sacrament meetings has fallen off and the visits of the ward teachers have not been as regular as in other years.

MILITARY.

Over 20,000 members of the Church were in the military service of the United States and its allies at the close of the year 1918. Of this number, 383 died in the service. We should have been allowed not less than twenty chaplains and we made application for permission to furnish our quota, but for some reason, unknown to us, we were only allowed to furnish three chaplains,

FINANCES.

The following are some of the expenditures paid out of the tithes and other Church funds during the year 1918:

There has been expended for assisting the worthy poor ..	\$ 279,244.30
For missionary work, and building of meeting houses in the missions, mission houses and return fare of Elders.	345,761.51
For the maintenance and operation of the Church school system, including the erection of new school buildings ...	695,561.70
For the maintenance and operation of the St. George, Logan, Manti and Salt Lake Temples	170,000.00
For the construction and equipment of the Hawaiian and Cardston Temples..	340,036.17
For the erection of meeting houses (This does not include donations for the same purpose by members of the respective wards) ...	288,766.76
For the maintenance of stakes and wards in all their various departments	526,002.91
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	\$2,645,373.35

Attention has been called to the fact that the work which the Pioneers did in planting trees and in beautifying homes, farms, ward

meeting houses, schools and other buildings, is being sadly neglected in the Latter-day Saint communities. Our advice and counsel to the Latter-day Saints is to plant more trees, to get the best kinds adapted to each locality and grow them wherever they can be grown.

In my remarks here yesterday I referred to the comments of a gentleman from St. Louis, who makes a specialty of parking and beautifying cities, and who stated that we are not living up to the very splendid record made in this particular by the early pioneers. A gentleman remarked to Brother McMurrin, on one occasion, that our whole city is a park, and it would be indeed a park if we carried out the advice given in early days, by President Brigham Young and others, that we should plant trees in the vacant spaces in front of our homes.

As stated yesterday, I had the privilege of attending the Semi-centennial Celebration of the completion of the Union and Central Pacific Railroads at Ogden, and regretted that a report was not taken and published of the speeches of four officials of the Southern Pacific Railroad. I have just received a letter from one of the speakers, Mr. J. M. Fulton, enclosing a short extract from his address, on which I had personally complimented him. I desire to read this extract, in order that it may become part of our proceedings:

But we all do, and must, remember that before either survey or construction of the Central or Union Pacific Railroads had commenced, a hardy, thrifty, industrious, God-loving people had shown that the desert, from the Missouri river to Utah, could be conquered. They were the pioneers who blazed the trail to where we now are, and it is they who

have made of Utah what it is today, but in my judgment, they did not then, do not now, conceive of the great future that lies before them.

We find in this Valley, a vast production of sugar-beets, grains, fruit, livestock, and everything that man needs, and the blessing is that there is a home market for all that is produced. You have vast sugar factories, flour mills, canning plants, and your splendid meat packing establishment, all standing ready to take from the farmer for cash all that he produces.

This co-operation will surely make of Utah a great and rich land. Nowhere else in the world do I know of such helpful cooperation between the producer and the manufacturer as shown in Utah, nor have I ever known a more hospitable people. It is the blood of those brave men, whom we all revere, who, for their love of God, dared the desert and sought a new land, who are now building and will soon make of Utah one of the greatest states of the Union. Even now, Utah manufactured commodities are finding a market in nearly every state, and in many foreign lands.

And now, in conclusion, I want to say to you that on this day you are driving a Spike of Gold into our hearts that will stay put, and we hope so worthy a people as you have a similar feeling for us.

The chief engineer of the Southern Pacific Railroad, Mr. Wm. Hood, delivered a magnificent speech upon that occasion, paying one of the finest tributes to the pioneers that I have ever heard. I regret exceedingly that the enterprise of our newspapers was such that we only had pictures of the procession, page after page, but nothing of the very splendid remarks that were made.

ELDER DAVID O. MCKAY

Home-building characteristics of the Latter-day Saints—One important duty of home-builders—The home threatened in the present world commotion—To save this sacred institution devolves upon the Saints—

A few fundamental principles to be kept in mind: Honor, obedience, mutual service, eternity of the marriage relation—These spell Home, and comprehend the spirit in which the principles of life and salvation should be taught to children—The home of President Joseph F. Smith an example.

My brethren and sisters, I rejoice in having the privilege of uniting with you in this great spiritual feast. Yesterday was Memorial day, and I pray that today may be equally rich in the outpouring of the Spirit of the Lord. In the most interesting remarks made just now by President Grant, reference was made to the home-beautifying characteristic of the Pioneers. That is just in keeping with the thought that is uppermost in my mind this morning. The Pioneers were home builders in the truest, most fundamental sense.

I would like to read that important passage from Section 68 of the Doctrine and Covenants, in which the Lord says plainly what one important duty of home-builders is: "Inasmuch as parents have children in Zion, or in any of her stakes which are organized, that teach them not to understand the doctrine of repentance, faith in Christ the Son of the Living God and of baptism and the gift of the Holy Ghost by the laying on of the hands when eight years old, the sin be upon the heads of the parents; for this shall be a law unto the inhabitants of Zion, or in any of her stakes which are organized; * * * and they shall also teach their children to pray and walk uprightly before the Lord."

We are living in a most momentous age. We see on every hand manifestations of commotion. The

world seemingly is stirred as it has never been stirred before. Political institutions are crumbling. Old forms and methods are fast giving way to new ones. Political organizations are being revolutionized, some for better and some for worse. Old fundamental principles of government are tottering. Some have even been replaced by theories that are not tenable, others not practicable, and some that are infamous.

In the midst of this world-commotion the home, the fundamental institution of society, is also threatened. In contrast to this fundamental instruction given by the Lord I should like to read what I found, yesterday, written by a man who has taken a general survey of the condition of the world in regard to the home:

"Many maintain that we are ready for a movement into community living. There are those who raise the question whether family life is a permanent form of social organization for which we may wisely contend. Or is it but a phase from which the race is now emerging? Some men see signs that the ties of marriage will be but temporary, that children will be born, not into families, but into the life of the State, bearing only mothers' names and knowing no brothers and sisters, save in that brotherhood of the State."

The author of that paragraph wrote those sentiments before the revolution in Russia, but you who have followed the anarchy that followed the overthrowing of the autocratic form of government in that land realize how literally some men have attempted to strike at the sacredness and the perpetuity of family life.

Latter-day Saints, the responsibility of saving this sacred institu-

tion devolves largely upon you, for you know that the family ties are eternal. They should be eternal. There is nothing temporary in the home of the Latter-day Saint. There is no element of transitoriness in the family relationship of the Latter-day Saint home. That all such ties are eternal should be maintained. To the Latter-day Saint the home is truly the cell-unit of society; and parenthood is next to Godhood. The relationship of the children to the parents should be one which would enable those children to carry out ideal citizenship as they become related to the State and to the larger forms of society. The secret of good citizenship lies in the home. The secret of instilling faith in God, faith in his Son, the Redeemer of the world, faith in the organizations of the Church, lies in the home. There it is centered. God has placed upon you parents the responsibility of instilling these principles into the minds of children. Church schools, Sunday schools, Mutual Improvement associations, Primary and Religion classes are all helps in government, established here to assist in the upbuilding and guidance of the youth, but none of these—great and important factors as they are in the lives of our youth—can supplant the permanence and the influence of the parents in the home.

There are a few fundamental principles which we should ever keep in mind. First, the eternity of the marriage relation. Oh, may our youth throughout the land realize that they have within their grasp the possibilities of that form of marriage which will contribute more to their happiness in this

world and their eternal union and happiness in the world to come than can be obtained anywhere else in the world. Let our young men and women look forward with pride, with eagerness, to the time when, in worthiness, they may go to the House of God and have their love sealed by the bonds of the eternal priesthood. No element that is temporary in such union as that! Nothing that is passing with the years; but binding for time and all eternity. Second, let us hold to that first word in the second part of the fundamental law of humanity, the ten commandments. Those first few commandments refer to our relationship to God. The last few to our relationship to humanity. The second part begins with the word honor—"Honor thy father and thy mother." Let us cherish in our homes as we cherish the lives of our children themselves, that word honor with all the synonyms—respect, reverence, veneration; honoring mother, honoring father, having them honor us as we honor and revere God our eternal Father. Let the element of honor, devotion, reverence permeate the home life. Thirdly, let us never lose sight of the principle of obedience. Obedience is heaven's first law, and it is the law of the home. There can be no true happiness in the home without obedience—obedience obtained, not through physical force, but through the divine element of love. There is no home without love. You may have a palace and yet not have a home, and you may live in a log house with a dirt roof, and a dirt floor, and have there the most glorious home in all the world, if within those four log walls there per-

meates the divine principle of love, love that draws from husband to wife and from children to parents, that blessed obedience and compliance that makes life worth while.

I believe firmly that parents fail to get obedience from their children during the first five years of childhood. I believe that during that most important period of child life the parents sow the seeds of obedience or disobedience. Some of us fill that period of child life with too many don'ts, failing to make the child realize that a request from father, a request from mother should be complied with. Mother says: "Don't touch that," to the little child. The little child toddles along and touches it. What is the result? The seeds of disobedience are sown. You don't have to punish the little child. Lovingly, kindly, but firmly, teach the child that there are rules in the house which should be obeyed. Mothers, fathers, treasure sacredly and sense keenly your responsibility to the child during those first five plastic years of its life. With these home elements I desire to mention another, and that is mutual service, each working for the other. If some of these pernicious theories to which I referred shall prevail and take out from the home the relationship of parents to children and children to parents, and children to each other, they will deprive humanity of one of the greatest means of teaching the true spirit of Christ—sacrifice for each other, salvation through service. O that home is most beautiful in which you find each striving to serve the other, and you find them, too, all through the Church. Here is a

young woman whose father, through misfortune, lost his wealth. She is compelled to get a profession, follow it for her livelihood and to assist the parents. The call comes for her brother, younger than she, to go on a mission. He hasn't much means, he hasn't any. The ward, through entertainments and service, pays his fare to his missionary field, and the sister for two years, shares her scanty means to keep him there preaching the gospel of Christ. He comes home in honor, having served his Lord and brought honest souls to a realization of the eternal principles of life. When he throws his arms around his sister in the home greeting, he says: "Sister, I owe you much, I owe you a lot of money, too." She answers: "Not one cent. I have been delighted to contribute my mite in that great work." Mutual service in the home, the Christ spirit! Two testimonies strengthened through service and self sacrifice. I tell you we cannot afford to eliminate that element from home life.

Just by way of impressing these principles upon your minds I will say, incidentally, that if I change the order slightly you will find that by combining the first letters they will spell home, and it seems to me they comprehend the spirit in which the principles of life and salvation should be taught to children. *Honor, obedience, mutual service, eternity of the marriage relation.* God help us as parents to send from our homes true Latter-day Saints, boys and girls who do not hesitate to bear testimony of their membership in the Church, more than that, boys and girls who are eager to go out into the world and bear testi-

mony to the world that the marriage relationship is an eternal one, that the home is a permanent and eternal institution against which no theory that strikes at the purity and honor of womanhood, that deprives children of fatherhood, or the love of mother, can stand or in any way attack that institution. God help us fathers and mothers to build such homes. While we are beautifying them without, keep within them the spirit of the gospel of Jesus Christ.

In this respect, I know of no better example than the home of our late beloved President Joseph F. Smith. His sons, his daughters, his wives, are true to the gospel, true to the truth. They loved and honored President Smith, but through that they love and honor that which is even greater—the truth, the gospel. His closing words to his sons and daughters, I think, are a classic. On November 10, 1918, he expressed his heart's truest sentiments to those boys and girls who stood around him saying, and mind you, these are almost his last words: "When I look around me and see my boys and my girls whom the Lord has given to me—and I realize I have succeeded, with his help, to make them tolerably comfortable and at least respectable in the world—I have reached the treasure of my life, the whole substance that makes life worth living." God sanctify those words to us that we, too, may obtain "the treasure of life—the whole substance that makes life worth living." I pray in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

J. R. Boshard and Elizabeth Evans sang a duet: "Thy Kingdom of Love."

ELDER ANTHONY W. IVINS

The surrender of Lord Cornwallis an event of great importance, bearing on today's civil and religious liberty—The past year the most eventful in the history of both Government and Church—Our direct contact with the great world war—The stupendous accomplishment of our Nation in the war—The need of united effort in Church and Nation—Capital and Labor must be brought together in union of interest—We must have just laws and men of character to administer them—Fewer politicians and more unselfish statesmen—God give us men who will stand for the right and for law and order in both Church and Nation.

"For the former things are passed away, and he that sat upon the throne said: Behold I make all things new."

The proceedings of the conference, my brethren and sisters, and my own reflections, as I have thought of the immediate past, and the probabilities of the future, have prompted me to read this scripture from the revelation to St. John, upon the Isle of Patmos, as a basis for the brief remarks which I expect to make this morning.

It is now 137 years since the surrender of Lord Cornwallis, and the British Army which he commanded, at Yorktown, which made possible the establishment of the confederacy of the states known as the United States of America. It was an event which meant more to the people of the world than men of the time dreamed. It is true that representatives of the three millions of people who constituted the original thirteen colonies, hoped, and expected that the system which they founded would endure, that the right of self-government would descend

to their children, that America would become and forever remain a gathering place, an asylum, for the oppressed and down-trodden of all nations, but that the seed sown at that time would within a period of 137 years result in the breaking down of kingship, the crash of monarchies, and the establishment of free government throughout the civilized world was neither hoped for nor expected. It was an event of great importance to the world and particularly so to us who are members of the Church of Christ because it opened the way for the breaking down of religious prejudice and recognition of the doctrine that just as man was entitled to enjoy life, liberty, and to pursue happiness in his own way, so long as he did not interfere with the rights of his neighbor, so was it his privilege to worship the Lord according to the dictates of conscience, let him worship who, where or what he may desire.

Eighty-nine years ago the Church was organized, and since that time it has been the custom of the members to meet together on the 6th day of April in general conference, as we are assembled here today, the present date being somewhat delayed because of circumstances over which we had no control. The purpose of these meetings is to transact the business of the Church, review the past, and plan for the future, that we may determine by comparison the growth and development of the Church. The present is, of course, of greater importance to us than either the past or future, because it is our day, but our lives are so closely associated with the past and the future is of so great import-

ance to us, that we cannot confine ourselves entirely to existing conditions. By the experiences of the past, if we are discreet, we learn wisdom. The paths trodden by those who have passed away are paths of safety, or danger, to us as they have been to those who have walked in them before us. The pitfalls are marked, the shoals and reefs have been charted, and only a careless or headstrong mariner will fall into the pits, or drive his vessel upon the rocks where others have been wrecked. Since the establishment of the Church, both Church and Nation have experienced periods of trial which have shaken the very foundations upon which they rest. There have been times when the perpetuity of the government has been threatened by war with foreign powers, and by fratricidal strife; but upon each occasion it has emerged stronger, more steadfast than before. The same condition applies to the Church. It has been assailed by enemies from without and by schisms within, but notwithstanding these efforts to destroy it, it has with each succeeding year grown stronger, extending its power and influence for good as the years have rolled by. We are now met together again, representatives of the Church from all parts of the world, where the gospel has been preached and branches of the Church organized, to review occurrences of the most eventful year in our history, the most eventful year in the history of the modern world, to consider the requirements of the Church and the Government of which we form a part and plan for the future, in so far as we are capable of doing with our finite wisdom and knowledge.

I refer to both the government and the Church because to me that which is vital to one is of equal importance to the other. Without just laws by which society may be controlled and the rights of the people protected, and honest, conscientious men to administer them, the Church cannot exist. It never has been able to exist without them; and without the influence of the Church, which teaches honesty, morality, devotion to duty, respect for the law and the patriotic support of the men who enact and enforce, there cannot, in my opinion, be a just government.

During the past year the Church has been brought into direct contact for the first time with a great world war. It is true that on other occasions comparatively small numbers of its members have served in the armies of our country, but never before has the effect of war been so universally felt and the people put to a similar test. Believing, as we do, in the divine doctrine of peace, as it was taught by the Redeemer of the world, abhorring the shedding of blood, believing in the universal fatherhood of God and brotherhood of man, war was abhorrent to us; but when our country called, when it became necessary to take up arms in defense of the principles for which our government stands, we responded as cheerfully and performed our part as bravely as did any other citizens of the republic.

During the past year, as has been stated, one of the most desolating scourges of sickness ever known has passed over the land. An unprecedented number of our Church members have been stricken, and many of our most useful and esteemed brethren and sisters have

passed away. During the past year the Church has lost, as you all know, its honored, esteemed and beloved president. For seventeen years President Smith had presided over the Church, had directed its policy and to a great extent shaped its destiny. We believed in the divinity of his prophetic calling, had confidence in his wisdom and judgment, felt that his example and teachings were indispensable to the welfare of the Church, but the Lord saw fit to take him, and call another to stand in his place, a new man to direct the policy of the Church in this new era upon which we are entering, in this new world, for the world of 1919 is not the same world which existed a year ago. The government, like the Church, has passed through experiences, the like of which have never before been known. No nation has ever before, within the same period of time, mobilized from raw recruits, armed and equipped, transported across the sea, furnished commissary for, trained and sent to the battle front such an army of fighting men as has the United States of America. Men may criticise that which has been done, may tell you how it might have been better done, but the fact remains that the most stupendous undertaking which the world has even known has been successfully accomplished.

One year ago the question of the courage and devotion of the American soldier, when he might reach the old world, was one of common discussion. Since the events which occurred one year ago yesterday and today, when American marines and infantry, for the first time went into action at Chateau-Thierry, that question has been set

at rest, for never before in the history of the world have men shown greater courage, greater devotion, greater self-sacrifice than has the American soldier upon the battle fields of France. Men have criticised, and will continue to criticise, that splendid citizen-soldier who has commanded our armies abroad, will tell you that the success of our arms was not due to his intelligence or generalship, but it is a well-known fact that no American commander was ever before confronted by conditions so difficult and well nigh insurmountable and that under his leadership the war was brought to a speedy and successful termination. Men have criticised, and I suppose will continue to criticise and seek to belittle the man who has stood as the representative of the American people, and American ideals, through this critical and eventful period; will question his judgment, his patriotism, and will not hesitate to grossly attack his character in their efforts to discredit his administration, but the fact remains, and will be so written in history, that President Wilson has been confronted by the most difficult, the most intricate and complex questions which have ever confronted a President of the United States. The Lord be praised that he has managed them as well as he has.

You may ask: what has this to do with this conference and the welfare of the Church? I have called attention to the fact that we are entering upon a new era, are upon the threshold of a new world. Changes have come to the Church, and many other changes will come. I cannot perceive by careful personal observation, that these changes have created a ripple of confusion or dissension in the

Church. Without exception this splendid body of men who make up the presiding authorities of the Church, stand solidly behind the new Presidency, and if this condition shall continue there can be no doubt regarding the success of this administration; but let me ask you this question: Suppose that we who are nearest to President Grant and his counselors, these presidents of stakes, were constantly seeking occasion to discredit that which they do, criticising their policy without offering a better, sowing the seeds of dissension among the people, suppose that we, in order to accomplish our own ambitious purposes, were sowing the seeds of distrust and dissension among the members of the Church, how long would it continue to exist? It would soon be converted into broken fragments without cohesion or power. Not one of us, I am sure, desires this condition; and if we adhere to our past and present policy, each man and woman seeking first the establishment of the Kingdom of Heaven upon earth, and the Lord's righteousness, it will never come, but the Church will enter upon this new era with a strength and power of development such as it has never before known. What I say of the Church I apply to the Government. We need it. We must have it, and I can not conceive that we can be true to one and untrue to the other. I can not conceive that I have obligations of duty and service to my brethren and sisters in the Church which I do not owe to my fellow citizens in the State, and if I see danger ahead for my country, it is my duty to declare it as it is to ward off danger from the Church, and I fancy that I see such danger

for my country. The State, like the Church, is entering upon a new era, is upon the threshold of a new world. Without sacrificing fundamentals, old policies and prejudices must give way, selfishness, the curse of the modern world, whether it be personal, community or national, must give way to a broader, more liberal, more statesmanlike policy. The selfishness of the poor, who look with greedy eyes upon the possessions of those who, by their industry and economy, have accumulated plenty, and a desire to take it without the consent of the owner, or giving value received for it, the inordinate selfishness and greed of the rich, who grind down the poor, who shut their eyes and close their ears to the cry of the needy in order that they may add to their ill-gotten gains, are the two great elements of danger which I see for our government. Governments have been wrecked by them since the beginning of time. Why should we close our eyes to the experiences of the past? Some means must be found by which those who toil, who produce the wealth of the world, may more justly share in the fruits of their labors. By which those who have in abundance may be protected in the possession of that which is justly theirs. Unless a plan be found by which capital and labor may be brought together on a basis of righteousness, the time is not far distant when the conditions which prevail in the old world will be enacted in our own beloved country. One thing is indispensable to the perpetuity of our system of government.

It is not so much the enactment of just laws, however important that may be, as it is the character

of the men who administer them; or the best of laws, if administered by selfish, dishonest men, amount to little — nothing. What our country needs, is more unselfish statesmen and fewer professional politicians. Personally I can see little difference between the man who by sabotage prevents the harvesting of the crops of the West, where the people cry for bread, stops the wheels of the factories in the East, while the people shiver with cold, and the member of Congress who, by sabotage, under another name, obstructs legislation, stops the wheels of commerce, refuses appropriations designed to provide for the industries of the country, to feed its army, provide for its navy and render assistance to a dying world which in anguish looks on and cries for succor, and all to accomplish his own ambitious purposes and satisfy his petty spite. It seems to me that never before were the words of J. G. Holland more applicable than they are today, when we are confronted by these universal worldwide conditions, which either mean the destruction of society or its protection. He long ago said: "God give us men. A time like this requires strong minds, great hearts, true faith and ready hands; men whom the lust of office does not kill, men whom the spoils of office cannot buy; for while the rabble with their thumb-worn creeds, their great pretensions and their little deeds, mingle in selfish strife, lo freedom weeps, wrong rules the land, and waiting justice sleeps."

The Lord has spoken plainly to us who are of the Church upon this question, has told us that many are called but few are chosen. Why are they not chosen? Because

their hearts are set so much upon the things of this world, and aspire to the honors of men, that they forget this one lesson: that the rights of the priesthood are inseparably connected with the powers of heaven, and that the powers of heaven cannot be controlled or exercised, except upon principles of righteousness; that whenever we use it to accomplish our own ambitious purposes, to satisfy our own pride or exercise dominion by compulsion over the souls of men, in any degree of unrighteousness, amen to the priesthood and authority of that man.

I believe, my brethren and sisters that this doctrine applies to men who are engaged in the administration of civil affairs, as it does to those who are engaged in work for the Church; for whether men believe it or not, the powers of heaven do dominate this earth, an' woe to the man who ignores it. He will reap that which he sows, as many people in the world today are reaping the harvest from the seed which they have sown. And so my appeal to you is to put away from us all, as far as we can, personal selfishness and ambition, to desist from unjust criticism of the men in the Church, and in the State, who stand for that which is right for the maintenance of law and order, for the protection of the rights of society, that we give patriotic and unselfish service to both the Church and the State, service which is freely given; for a gift given or duty performed, if done grudgingly, counts us for little or nothing. May the Lord help us, my brethren and sisters, to look into this new world with enlarged vision, to comprehend our duties to it, and to each other, and faith-

fully perform them. I humbly pray. Amen.

PRESIDENT HEBER J. GRANT

We have been listening to truth, so we will ask the congregation to arise and join in singing John Jaques's inspired hymn—"O, Say, What is Truth?"

O, say, what is truth? 'Tis the fairest gem

That the riches of worlds can produce;
And priceless the value of truth will be when
The proud monarch's costliest dia-
dem

Is counted but dross and refuse.

Yes, say, what is truth? 'Tis the brightest prize

To which mortals or Gods can aspire:
Go search in the depths where it
glittering lies,
Or ascend in pursuit to the loftiest
skies,
'Tis an aim for the noblest de-
sire.

The sceptre may fall from the des-
pot's grasp,
When with winds of stern jus-
tice he copes,
But the pillar of truth will endure
to the last,
And its firm-rooted bulwarks out-
stand the rude blast,
And the wreck of the fell tyrant's
hopes.

Then, say, what is truth? 'Tis the
last and the first,
For the limits of time it steps o'er:
Though the heavens depart, and the
earth's fountains burst,
Truth, the sum of existence, will
weather the worst,
Eternal, unchanged, evermore.

J. Jaques.

Following the singing of the hymn, President Grant said:

Usually, in our conference pro-
ceedings, the hymn is mentioned

and the first line recorded, but I would request Brother Edward H. Anderson, our clerk, to see that in publishing the proceedings of this conference, this inspired hymn shall appear in full.

Since our last meeting the vac-
ancy caused by the death of our
beloved President has been filled
by my being taken from the Coun-
cil of the Twelve, creating a vac-
ancy in that Council, and Brother
Melvin J. Ballard has been sus-
tained by you here, yesterday, to
fill the vacancy in the Council of
the Twelve. We will now ask
Brother Ballard to occupy the bal-
ance of the time in this meeting.

ELDER MELVIN J. BALLARD

Scourges have a lesson and a mean-
ing of great significance—Testi-
monies of Nature—The wisdom of
men cannot counteract the scourges
of God—Through calamities and
judgments the Lord often touches
the hearts of men—Why the inno-
cent and the good suffer affliction
—The answer from the Lord who
speaks through the suffering of the
good, that all may repent—Let us
therefore resolve to serve God bet-
ter than ever that we may escape
the judgments of tomorrow—
Danger in material prosperity—
But God is at the helm.

The circumstance which has
postponed the annual conference
of the Church from April until
June has already been commented
upon. I feel, however, that it is a
matter of sufficient importance to
call your attention to it again. I
believe that the events that have
transpired have a lesson and a
meaning of great significance to
the Latter-day Saints and to the
world. I believe that it is pleasing
to the Lord for us to contemplate
these things that are occurring, and

to learn the lessons which he intends we should and, therefore, my mind and my thoughts have been 'welling upon this matter for some time past. I believe that the Lord understood exactly what was to transpire. I read in the first section of the book of Doctrine and Covenants, in the Lord's preface to this book, that he, the Lord, knowing those things that would happen in the last days, the judgments that would come, war and pestilence, etc., spoke through his servant, the Prophet Joseph Smith and addressed the whole world through this humble instrumentality, revealing the fulness of the everlasting gospel, giving command that the elders of the Church should carry this message and warning, that this is the hour of God's judgment, and that the Lord had provided the means of escape through the restoration of the everlasting gospel, and that the elders of the Church were to carry this message to the islands of the sea and to the nations of the earth. I believe, as we review the efforts of our brethren—our fathers, our grandfathers, who have endeavored to perform this duty, that they stand with their skirts clear of the blood of this generation. By thousands and tens of thousands they have gone to the islands of the sea, to the lands of the earth, to countries where they were not wanted, where they were imprisoned, and from which they were exiled, and many of them have given up their lives there, through being martyred or through disease. They have given their best. Nothing has deterred them. None of the things of the earth that are attractive to men have swerved these brethren from the

discharge of their duty; so that we have, I believe, a record that is clean and clear, and we have performed our duty towards the world.

Among those judgments which the Lord said would come—after the testimony of his servants, crying repentance to the nations of the earth, and offering the means of escape through the acceptance of his gospel—should be the testimonies of thunder, of lightning, of earthquakes, of the sea heaving itself beyond its bounds, of plague, of famine and of pestilence. I believe in my soul that the Lord is speaking to the nations of the earth, following the testimony of his humble servant. You will recall, in the forty-fifth section of the Doctrine and Covenants what the Lord said to his servant, the Prophet Joseph, concerning some of these judgments. I believe that in part at least we find a fulfilment of one of the calamities that the Lord said would come in consequence of the wickedness and the rebellion of the people against that message which the Lord delivered for the salvation of the world. You will find it in the thirty-first verse. "There shall be men standing in that generation"—the generation in which he was then speaking—"that shall not pass, until they shall see an overflowing scourge; for a desolating sickness shall cover the land." We may have laughed at that. Men have, in the past, tried to relegate the judgments of God into the realm of accident, things that have happened because of the ignorance of men. I recall, myself, reading how that the great black plague and other plagues that have infested the world have been attributed to

the ignorance of the people; and writers, modern scientists, have said, that such a thing never could happen again, because we know so much about the laws of sanitation, how to correct disease and control it; and they have told us that such a scourge could not occur in this day. We stand at the zenith of our knowledge; never before have men known so much about bacteriology and sanitation; and yet coming from unknown quarters, and making its way—men do not know how—from city to city, from individual to individual, there has come upon the world this dread affliction that has affected us so that our general conference had to be postponed. I believe in my soul that it is the Lord speaking, even as he has spoken before, when men undertook to build so they could preserve themselves against calamities. When they built a tower to reach so high that the floods of the earth could not touch them, he was greater than all their towers. He stands above all man's feeble efforts to protect himself from the calamities and judgments that are going to come upon the children of men, if they do not repent. You recall how that after the building of what was termed the "non-sinkable ship," the great *Titanic*, it sailed away from the shores of England, with a boast on the lips of the men and women who drank their toast to the wonderful achievements of men in building a non-sinkable ship. Little did they think that in a few hours, that great ship would strike an iceberg and go down to the depths of the sea.

So, no man has been able to build so well, and no man has yet acquired knowledge and informa-

tion so that he can secure himself against the hand of the Lord, if he desires to reach him and touch him; for we stand helpless before him. Physicians have discussed the subject of the influenza-pneumonia scourge, and have adjourned their meetings unable to decide just what it is. They have called it the "unknown disease," or the "X disease." Ordinary nurses have been more successful than skilled physicians in preserving the lives of many. The deaths that have occurred in the world are appalling. Recently we learned that in India alone there have been more than six million persons who have died with this affliction. When I have contrasted the results among the Latter-day Saints, I believe that I am safe in saying that no community in the world has been touched so lightly as the Latter-day Saints. There are three hundred thousand people living in Portland, Oregon, and I remember that it was reported that two thousand persons perished there during the influenza epidemic. ^{So} there were twice as many deaths from that cause in Portland, last year, as there were in the entire Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, and its population is certainly greater than three hundred thousand. Yet Portland had a record, according to the statistics, lower than most of the cities in the United States. My heart was touched, because many times we had to administer the last rites for those who did not belong to the Church. The morgues were full, and there were not enough ministers to conduct the services. I remember being greatly affected when we put into one grave three beautiful children, from one family, and laying mothers into the

graves, who were taken away from their children, who were greatly in need of their help.

I recall one circumstance when at the cemetery three funerals were being conducted at the same time, and we were so close together that we had to wait our turn in giving the opportunity for each group of mourners, peacefully, to lay their dead into the ground. My heart was touched, I say, as I listened to the wail of grief that came forth from each group of mourners as the last rites were said. I withdrew behind a little clump of trees and cried earnestly to my Father in Heaven to know why innocent children should perish, why mothers should be taken away who were needed in their families—good, true Latter-day Saints, many of them. I received an answer which was satisfactory to my soul, and it was that this was the judgment of God, even as he had said that his judgments would be poured out upon the nations of the earth, if they did not repent; that the Lord was speaking to the children of men, because the day of the coming of the Redeemer was nigh at hand, and men could not live in their wickedness and see him. They must repent or they shall perish, and the Lord was trying to touch the hearts of the children of men through this judgment.

But why the Latter-day Saints—why should they be afflicted? They have received the message of the gospel, or their fathers, in foreign lands, and have, in a measure at least, accepted of the means of escape from these calamities. Then the words of one of those revelations came to my mind, which was fully satisfactory to me. I refer to the ninety-seventh section of the

book of Doctrine and Covenants, with which perhaps you are all familiar. You will find in the twenty-second verse what I am now reading:

"For behold, and lo, vengeance cometh speedily upon the ungodly—and who shall escape it?"

"The Lord's scourge shall pass over by night and by day, and the report thereof shall vex all people; yet it shall not be stayed until the Lord come."

In that connection I want to read you something from the fifth section of the book of Covenants, dealing with this subject; for, let us not say to ourselves that we are out of the woods, that the trouble is past, and no more trouble will come. I would to the Lord that we had arrived at that state, when this would be possible, but we are not there yet. You will find here in the nineteenth verse of the fifth section:

"For a desolating scourge shall go forth among the inhabitants of the earth, and shall continue to be poured out, from time to time, if they repent not, until the earth is empty, and the inhabitants thereof are consumed away and utterly destroyed by the brightness of my coming."

That is the word of the Lord. Now I do not understand that the plague of influenza shall continue until the Lord comes, but I do think that one form or another of chastisement shall follow, with its seasons for repentance, for the preaching of the gospel, and crying to the nations of the earth: "Will you now listen unto the Lord," and if they shall not listen, then another affliction will come, until men shall either repent, or they shall perish. For these are

the last days, the days preceding the coming of the Re'emer, and he will not come when the wicked stand and flourish. Reading again from the ninety-seventh section:

"For the indignation of the Lord is kindled against their abominations and all their wicked works."

Now here is the answer for ourselves:

"Nevertheless, Zion shall escape, if she observe to do all things whatsoever I have commanded her.

"But if she observe not to do whatsoever I have commanded her, I will visit her according to all her works, with sore affliction, with pestilence, with plague, with sword, with vengeance, with devouring fire."

My brethren and sisters, why should we hope to escape, who have been baptized into this Church, yet ignore the commandments of the Lord? For there are among us those who do not keep the Word of Wisdom, some of us do not pay our tithing; we do not sanctify ourselves by adding unto our faith, virtue; to virtue, knowledge, to knowledge, temperance, and patience, and godliness, and brotherly kindness. Why should we claim exemption—we who know the truth, we who have been warned, we who will testify that we believe God has spoken—why should we escape if we do not keep the commandments of the Lord? And I say this with a feeling in my heart of deep appreciation that the Latter-day Saints are, notwithstanding all this, the best people in the world; and I have received a witness to my soul that the innocent children and faithful Latter-day Saints were not taken because they were wicked, nor because the families that were touched needed to be chastised more than others, but that the Lord was speaking through those who

have been taken—these one thousand and who have gone from us. . The Lord is speaking through them to the whole Church, crying repentance unto us, calling us to set our houses in order, to keep the commandments of the Lord.

When I read that wonderful statement in the concluding verse of the revelation known as the Word of Wisdom, wherein the Lord promised that those who would seek to keep these commandments, that he would make them immune, that the destroyer should not destroy them unnecessarily, before their day and time. As I read the statement that those who were guilty of the excessive use of tobacco had fallen easy victims to the influenza, I thought that the Lord, in giving us the Word of Wisdom, was trying to make the Latter-day Saints immune, so that they might stand in the midst of the plagues and judgments that are to come. We will not escape them; we will be touched by them; but I want to testify to you that when the Latter-day Saints turn to the Lord and keep his commandments, and serve him in all things that have been required, these judgments shall not harm us; and our loved ones shall not go from us until the day appointed for them to go has come. But if we shall be touched, it is because the Lord is preparing us to stand in our places to be a light among the nations of the earth, the salt, the very savor of the world; and we cannot be that except we keep the commandments of the Lord.

So in my own mind and soul, I have resolved that I am going to serve God better than I have ever done; that I am going to learn this lesson, that I do not want any more

whippings; that I want to be willing and amenable today, so that the judgments of tomorrow need not fall upon me. I know that many of our brethren and sisters who have perished were worthy to go; and those who need repentance have stayed, that they may repent. I pray in my soul that the Lord will comfort and bless those who have been bereaved; for he knew whom he could touch. Many who have suffered the loss of their loved ones have been able to endure it, because they had faith; and had it touched other families, it might have wrecked them. The Lord knew who could stand this affliction, and so he has administered it, I believe, for the wise purpose of calling us unto him, calling us back to the standards of our fathers.

I glory in the achievements of the past. I glory in the material growth and development of this Church. It shall not suffer under the administration of the man whom the Lord has called now to lead and direct the affairs of this Church; for he is competent fully to take care of those matters. But I do feel, brethren and sisters, that there is danger that in the material growth of this Church we may lose sight of the other features that are more essential. I feel there is danger, in the midst of this material prosperity, that we may be disposed to build ourselves up financially rather than to devote ourselves to the accomplishment of the great work that the Lord laid upon the shoulders of our fathers, namely, to convert the world and to save ourselves. The financial prosperity that has come to the Latter-day Saints is but a stepping-stone, if we only consider it properly, to prepare us to fulfil the

great obligations that rest upon us, and not to excuse ourselves from carrying the message of the gospel to a world whom the Lord is trashing, and whom he will thrash. Let us prepare our hearts to go when the time shall come, and make the kind of sacrifice our fathers have made, and do our part in spreading the truth among the nations of the earth. This is my earnest desire.

I bear witness that this is the Lord's work; that he is at the helm. The light is in the ship, and it will go steadily forward. I know, as I know that I live, that this is the work of our Father. I know that Jesus Christ lives, that he is the Redeemer and Savior of the world. I know it as well as I know that I look upon your faces today. When the day shall come that, like Thomas of old, I may thrust my hand into his side or feel the prints of the nails in his hands and feet; or like Mary, I may bathe his feet with my tears, I shall not know it any better than I know it today; for I know that he lives, that he is the redeemer of the world and that he did speak to the Prophet Joseph Smith. I know that this is the Lord's work; that he is in it, and it will rise triumphant and go forward.

My heart rejoices in the privilege of being identified with this work. I feel thankful that I have the confidence and the love of my brethren, and oh, my heart rejoices that I do have their love and confidence. I felt very humble in my soul when President Grant informed me, as I stated yesterday, that the Lord had made it known to him that I should continue my labors in the ministry, and that I should be one of the special witnesses of the Lord Jesus, and I said:

"President Grant, if I thought I could be worthy to be one of the special witnesses of the Lord, Jesus, it would be the happiest moment of my life; for I esteem that the highest honor that could come to man." But my ideal of the kind of men they ought to be was so great, and I found myself not measuring up to that standard, which I have in my own mind. Yet, with the help of the Lord and the patience of my brethren, I will do as I have said: I will try to be what you want me to be—a servant of the people; and with all the power and strength of my mind and soul I shall try to be faithful to this trust and to be a worthy representative of the Lord Jesus in the earth. I feel small; I feel little; I feel insignificant; but knowing, as I have known through the thirteen years that I have spent in the missionary field, that the Lord will help the weak and make them strong, I depend upon him and your love, your fellowship and your support. I know this work will go forward. I know that the spirit of the prophet now rests upon the president of this Church; that is my witness and testimony. The dogs may bark, but the grand, majestic Caravan, the Church of the living God, will move on triumphantly. God bless it forever and ever, and help us to keep loyal and true to it and put ourselves in the way so that we may receive the divine favor of our Father and escape the afflictions of the world. If we shall be faithful and true, I know that every promise and blessing that has been pronounced upon our heads will be realized and verified, which may God grant in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

The choir and congregation sang: "For the strength of the hills," and the benediction was offered by Patriarch Frederick A. Mitchell.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The conference was called to order at 2 o'clock by President Heber J. Grant who presided.

The choir and congregation sang the hymn: "Do what is right."

Prayer was offered by Elder Lemuel H. Redd, Jr., president of the San Juan stake.

A quartette composed of Brothers Neilsen, Christensen, Plumeyer, and Holdaway sang: "Lead, kindly light."

ELDER JOSEPH FIELDING SMITH

Changes in life must come—Convinced of the divinity of the mission of Joseph Smith—The Solemn Assembly an inspiring sight—Order of the Church in choosing a President—Testimony.

My brethren and sisters, I have feelings of mingled sadness and joy in standing before you this afternoon. This conference, and the remarks that have been made by the various speakers, have brought to my memory many scenes of the past and I feel rather tender in my spirit. I realize perfectly that time is passing, that man's probation here, or, his days upon the earth, are limited, and when his work is finished, in the natural course of things it is to be expected that he will be taken home. I accept the changes that come, rejoicing in the

fact that the gospel which we have received is true. Changes of necessity must come, conditions vary, from day to day, and new scenes are bound to present themselves as time rolls on.

All my life, from my earliest recollection, I have accepted the mission of the Prophet Joseph Smith, believed in him, and accepted him as the servant of the Lord who was called and appointed to usher in this dispensation, known as the Dispensation of the Fulness of Times. Clothed with power from on high, he was sent forth to declare the principles of the everlasting gospel to a perverse world that they might, through repentance, come unto God and receive salvation in his kingdom. This great truth has, I say, always, from my earliest recollection, found an abiding place in my heart, and I have accepted every change that has come unto the Church until this time; and now I find myself still in harmony with the work, with the sentiments of the Latter-day Saints, with my brethren who preside, because I am convinced in my heart that this is the work of God.

It was an inspiring sight that we beheld yesterday forenoon in this building when the brethren holding the priesthood in the various orders thereof were called upon to stand and express themselves by vote, either in favor of or against the presiding officers. I voted with full purpose of heart and with the determination, with the rest of you, to uphold and sustain the constituted authorities, to stand by them, because I realize that they hold the power and the priesthood which has descended from the day of the Prophet Joseph Smith,

which the Lord has said will continue upon the face of the earth until the end of time, and even then it shall not be taken away, for this priesthood is eternal.

No man can preside in this Church in any capacity, without the consent of the people. The Lord has placed upon us the responsibility of sustaining by vote those who are called, to various positions of responsibility. No man, should the people decide to the contrary, could preside over any body of Latter-day Saints in this Church, and yet it is not the right of the people to nominate, to choose, for that is the right of the priesthood. The priesthood selects, under the inspiration of our Father in heaven, and then it is the duty of the Latter-day Saints, as they are assembled in conference, or other capacity, by the uplifted hand, to sustain or to reject; and I take it that no man has the right to raise his hand in opposition, or with contrary vote, unless he has a reason for doing so that would be valid if presented before those who stand at the head. In other words, I have no right to raise my hand in opposition to a man who is appointed to any position in this Church, simply because I may not like him, or because of some personal disagreement or feeling I may have, but only on the grounds that he is guilty of wrong doing, of transgression of the laws of the Church which would disqualify him for the position which he is called to hold. That is my understanding of it.

I am glad to say that in raising my hand to sustain the authorities of the Church I can do that consistently and with pleasure, because I know that the men who are

called to preside in the name of the Lord are qualified, and are chosen by divine revelation. There was a time in the history of the Church when doubts arose in the minds of many of the people at the time of the disorganization of the presidency of the Church. Such a thing as the disorganization of the First Presidency had never occurred before, and many of the people were in doubt as to just what action should be taken. They wondered what the result would be. They were not acquainted, as perhaps they should have been, and as we are today, with the revelations which the Lord had given in regard to matters of that kind. Therefore, doubts arose in their minds. Men assumed authority and stood forth before the people demanding their attention and claiming the right of presidency. The matter, however, was properly settled by the vote of the people, and President Brigham Young, whose right it was, was sustained by the vote of the Latter-day Saints to stand at the head of the Church upon the earth. And yet it became necessary on that occasion, while President Young was speaking to the people, before the vote was taken, for the Lord to make it known by a manifestation that he was indeed the successor of the Prophet Joseph and that the mantle of his predecessor had fallen upon his shoulders. Such a thing as that is not required today because now we have learned the order of the Church; we know what the revelations declare. We know just what will follow in case of the disorganization of any quorum of the priesthood, and the people are not in doubt. There is no reason now

for us to be at cross purposes, to have a misunderstanding, to let doubts arise in our minds in regard to these matters, because everything is clear and everything will be followed in the order which the Lord has appointed. Now we move smoothly in the path of duty and accept the word of the Lord as it has been made known and as the understanding has been impressed upon our minds, due very largely to the experience of the past.

I am grateful and thankful for a testimony of the truth, notwithstanding the fact that the presence of this vast congregation in conference assembled and the remarks that have been made, bring to me thoughts and reflections that touch my heart, I have feelings of pleasure and of joy beyond expression in the knowledge that I have that the Lord has established this work and that it will endure upon the face of the earth and shall not be destroyed, it shall not be given to another people. It is here permanently and shall remain until the Lord has finished his work among the children of men; and then it will continue, for it is everlasting and shall never be destroyed. I know just as well as it is possible for me, I believe, to know in this life, that Joseph Smith was a prophet of God. There is no doubt in my mind in the least that Brigham Young was called and appointed to be his successor and that he presided over this people by the will of God and was filled with the spirit of inspiration and prophecy. So likewise it was with President John Taylor, President Wilford Woodruff, President Lorenzo Snow, and all others who have pre-

sided, and so it must be unto the end. The Lord will not permit any man to reach he presidency in this Church who is not prepared, who is not worthy, and whom he does not want. We may be assured of that. And, therefore, I find myself, I say, in absolute harmony with you in the order of the priesthood, in the doctrines of the Church, the revelations as they have been given unto us from the beginning, and I trust and pray that always I may have that spirit and be found faithfully laboring in the discharge of my duty as an officer and member in the Church in the salvation of souls, is my prayer in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

ELDER GERMAN E. ELLSWORTH

(Retiring President of the Northern States Mission.)

I am deeply grateful, my brethren and sisters, for the privilege of bearing my testimony to you concerning the work of the Latter-day Saints. It is my testimony that this work has been established by our Father in heaven, that he has selected men on the earth to fulfil certain positions, and they have been acknowledged of him inasmuch as they have done their duty. I have now had the pleasure of filling two missions. I remember well when called to go upon my first mission, how I looked forward with great joy to my labors in that field.

I remember from that field of labor I was shown in vision that I would not be home very long until called upon another mission, and despite, perhaps, my own efforts toward another line, that call came, and when one of the prophets of the Lord said to me that I was wanted

as a missionary in the Northern States mission, I told him I would go, and I can feel now the joy and happiness that filled my heart. Before going upon that mission, in fast meeting, one of the good members of the ward manifested in tongues: "My servant German E. Ellsworth has been called by my authority, and acknowledged of me, as a missionary to the Northern States." That much was given to the congregation in the interpretation, but there was a part of that manifestation that was never given to the congregation, that has always been a source of joy and happiness to me during the past sixteen years. It has been a great help to me in talking to young missionaries, who sometimes had the idea that they had been called just by some bishop, to go on a mission. I have without hesitation told them that every single one of us has been called by men, bishops, stake presidents, apostles and others in the Church, but our call had come finally from the president of the Church of Jesus Christ, who was God's mouthpiece in the earth, and that all who are called would be acknowledged by the Lord wherever they went, if they would go and do their duty.

As I stand before you now there comes to my mind a dream of my boyhood, wherein I might have desired many things and planned many things, but I can remember that my prayers always ended: "Father, above all thy blessings, grant me the privilege of being a teacher of righteousness and a preacher of the gospel of Jesus Christ." That desire and prayer has largely been fulfilled, having had already eighteen years of pleasure and happiness in preaching and teaching the gospel in company

with hundreds of the best men and women of the earth. I remember one time standing in the dusty road of California alone, hungry and weary, having almost gone to the limit of my strength, when my eyes opened, and standing by my side was a messenger of our Father, and if the influence of his presence had not been strength enough for me to lean upon—I was close enough to have put my hand upon his shoulder. I have known other missionaries in the field who have been weary and discouraged who have likewise had their eyes opened to see the fulfilment of our Father's promise that he will send his messengers before our face and lead us to the doors of those who are prepared to receive us. I bear witness, my brethren and sisters, that our Father has fulfilled this promise in my life and in the lives of the missionaries who have labored with me. There have been one or two special lines of missionary work that have been sources of great joy and happiness to me in my labors.

Shortly after going to the Northern States Mission I received an impression of the Lord concerning the Book of Mormon, of which I would like to bear testimony before the Latter-day Saints. It came to me as strong as if someone of my fellow missionaries had told it to me, that the Book of Mormon had been given of the Lord as a witness to this generation and that if we would remember it, that we would come out from under the condemnation that, as we are told, rested upon Zion; and then I recalled reading in the Doctrine and Covenants in the 84th section, beginning with the 54th verse, where-

in the Church and some of the early leaders of the Church, because of their unbelief in the Book of Mormon, I take it, were under condemnation and would needs remain so until they repented and remembered the new covenant, even the Book of Mormon. It was not long after that until, with the co-operation of two other missions, we published 10,000 Books of Mormon in Chicago, followed the next year by 12,000, and the following year by 27,000. The interest had so grown that bids were secured from New York, Chicago, Philadelphia, Boston, London and Japan for a 100,000 edition, with Chicago the lowest bidder. This perhaps is the largest number of that sacred record to be printed at one time. In all, 250,000 Books of Mormon were printed in Chicago before it was taken over by Zion's Printing & Publishing Co. We have distributed 130,000 Books of Mormon in the Northern States mission, 90,000 of which have been sold, and it is my testimony that every man and woman who has taken to heart the distribution of the Book of Mormon, taken to heart the teaching of the Book of Mormon, and the pointing out of the gems in that record to the people of the earth, have made a more wonderful growth than any other missionaries in the field. I can look back now over the mission and call to mind the young men who have taken hold of it with a vim and gone before the people, bearing witness of it, that the Lord was with and blessed them above all other missionaries.

I remember while standing on the Hill Cumorah, of hearing these words, "Push the distribution of the record that was taken from this

hill, for it will help bring the world to Christ," and as the Bible has "Christianized," as we term it today, many nations, so also will the Book of Mormon bring the world another long step towards membership in the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. I went immediately to Palmyra and secured postcard pictures of the hill and sent one to each of my missionaries, writing on each one the words suggested to my mind and the missionaries caught the real spirit of it and made that year one of the largest in Book of Mormon distribution we made in the Northern States.

One other feature of missionary work in the Northern States from which we have drawn a great deal of joy and satisfaction has been the genealogical work among the Saints. Seventy per cent of the families in the mission have been induced to make and keep a family record, and many families have contributed in the last four years, through the Relief Society, under the direction of Sister Ellsworth, about ten thousand names for temple ordinances. This work has brought a wonderful spirit of unity and good feeling one toward another, and has drawn the hearts of the Saints nearer towards the gospel than anything that has been done.

I am happy to have had the privilege of associating, so closely, with the men whom God has honored in the earth to be the leaders of his people. I can feel now the hand of President Smith upon my back and hear his words when I was going away upon this mission. When I told him that I had desired from a boy to become a physician he said: "Never mind, my boy, you

go on this mission, and we will make you a minister of righteousness and a savior of the souls of men, instead of the body." And his "The Lord bless you, my boy," which was repeated last October, has been worth more to me than the treasures of the earth.

I now bear witness to you, my brethren and sisters, that President Heber J. Grant is the prophet of the Lord; for my Father in heaven bore witness to that fact in my soul; so that my heart could easily follow my hand from President Smith to President Grant, as the man to stand at the head of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, and all those who will follow the counsel of those who are called now to preside over them shall be acknowledged of the Lord in their labor.

It has been a source of happiness beyond my language to describe to labor with 1500 young men and young women who have been appointed to labor in that mission. Out of that number only three have stumbled in the path, and even they have been reclaimed to lives of honor and integrity in the Church. We have had sorrow in the death and burial of five: two in the last year, from this dreadful malady, influenza, the other three over the remainder of our time there.

I rejoice in my testimony of the gospel. I rejoice in the power and influence of my Father, that I have felt in times of need. I rejoice for the measure of success that has attended us in our labors, and for the privilege of laboring so closely in connection with the brethren who have been honored of God to preside over the Church of Jesus Christ

of Latter-day Saints. I know that God lives, I know that Jesus Christ is the Son of God, beyond all shadow of doubt. I have known that from my boyhood, and there is no witness in my soul so great as that Christ is the Son of God, and that this is his work. My testimony is that Joseph Smith was a prophet of God, called by our Father to be the instrument in his hands in establishing the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. It is my testimony to you that the sweetest thing in all the world is to be a witness of the truth or an instrument in the hands of God in bringing men and women to the light that has been restored to the earth for the salvation of the souls of men. God bless Zion. Help us, in this hour of darkness and distress to arise and magnify our callings, and be a light set upon a hill that all the world will rejoice in this dark hour. God bless those who preside over the Church. Give them power and influence, and may they feel our sustaining influence and our uplifted hands supporting them, until the glory of God rests upon Zion, I pray, in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

ELDER WINSLOW F. SMITH

(President of the Northern States Mission.)

In listening to the testimonies that have been borne during this conference, I feel that I have been benefited and I feel more than ever before the responsibility of the calling that has come to me. I have never doubted the divinity of "Mormonism," so-called. I have never doubted the standing of the men called to preside. I have never hesitated to give unto them the

greatest support that I have had, and I feel, in standing here today, to bear my testimony to you, my brethren and sisters and friends, that I do so with the support of these men that I have supported.

Today in coming to this meeting I met a friend on the car who said: "How do you like to tear up home and go away?" I said: "I don't like it from the idea of tearing up home, but I do like it when it is in the line of my duty." I have always felt, my brethren and sisters, that the mission work of our Church is a source of its great strength. I have felt, ever since my experience in the mission field, fourteen years ago, that I was a better man for having gone and for having labored, and have said, time and time again, if no soul under heaven was benefited by my missionary experience, I, myself, was benefited, for I had joy, comfort and happiness and I had brought unto me an appreciation of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints that could have come to me in no other manner.

I tell you, my brethren and sisters, that ours is essentially a missionary Church; that unto us, a little handful of people, compared with the inhabitants of the earth, has been given the responsibility and the calling of preaching the gospel of Jesus Christ unto the whole world; and I tell you, my brethren and sisters, and I say it in earnestness and in candor, that the members here at home who are not doing their duty, who are not striving to teach by precept, by example, to those with whom they come in contact, are not measuring up to the full measure of their calling, and they are not getting the joy out of life that they are entitled to.

My work in life, since coming home from the mission field, has taken me into many of the stakes of Zion, and I have always made it a rule to attend service wherever I have been, and have found in the services where I have gone that the Spirit, the same that I knew in the mission field, was to be found. I have felt when called upon to speak to the Saints that I have spoken with the same freedom and the same help that I enjoyed while in the mission field, and I say this now, and in all candor, that I have enjoyed it. I have met many people not of our faith and have rejoiced that I had the knowledge to talk to them fairly intelligently on the principles which we believe in.

I say, my brethren and sisters, there are too many of us inclined to stand back. I love to say with Paul: "I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ; for it is the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth." I feel this in my very being, I rejoice in it, and I take pleasure in every opportunity, regardless of who the person may be, of talking on the principles of the gospel, as I believe them. It brings me joy, and I see it gives them light, it opens their eyes, and I know of occasions where people have been turned toward us and our people through my weak effort. I don't mean by this, brethren and sisters, that every time we meet with a person accidentally we must immediately burden him with the principles of the gospel, but I do mean that every time the opportunity presents itself by some person putting "that little question that comes," that we should be ready, and not only ready, but willing to let that person know what "Mor-

monism" is and where we stand in regard to the Church.

If we will cultivate faith, if we will humiliate ourselves, if we will strive to do our duty, if we will study and prepare our minds, when that opportunity does come we will be ready, and our readiness and our doing will surprise us and, as I have said before, give us far greater joy than we have ever dreamed of. Only a month or two ago I stayed in a hotel in a neighboring state until one o'clock in the morning talking our religion with a man who had never heard it, and I tell you, brethren and sisters, it was a pleasure, it was a joy, when that man said to me: "I am mighty glad that the things that I had heard of your Church are not true. I like you, I like your way, and I am going down into your state when I get nearer to it sometime and see what you have really done there." Now, that is only one opportunity. We have them every day or two and the opportunity is here right in our own state. Those of our associates whom we meet would be glad and willing to learn if we would put the question up to them in such a manner that they could not resist it. As we are walking along the street, one can say: "Why, there is that building, one of the oldest buildings in our town, that was built by so and so," and immediately the opportunity is there for a little explanation.

Brethren and sisters, it is the greatest work in the world. There is absolutely no sacrifice that we can make that we should consider too great, in working in the vineyard of the Lord. It is the greatest thing on earth, and right now, today, is our time, the opportunity

is ours, and not only the opportunity but the responsibility is ours to preach the gospel of Jesus Christ to the nations of the earth. I thank the Lord that I have been called again to go into the mission field, and I pray that I may be worthy, that I may measure up to the standard, that I may go forth in humility and with prayerful heart, that I may study and learn, and that I may follow brother Ellsworth in the work and carry it on as well as he has done in the mission field.

I support the brethren who have been called and whom we have sustained. I am back of them in their every act. I do not question them. I am confident that they are servants of the living God, and the little help that I may give will be as nothing, but it is there, and it is theirs. I want to do my share, and I believe in doing this, that they will support me, that they will help me; and, though I will be some distance from here, from the center stake, that their spirit and their prayers will be with me and help me. And, so, my brethren and sisters, I pray God to help us to appreciate our calling and our responsibility. I pray that he may give us his Spirit, that through it we may work and never tire, that our efforts shall never cease until the gospel of Jesus Christ shall be proclaimed to every man and woman and child on the earth; and, brethren and sisters, if we will do our share God will bless us and make us happy. I ask it in the name of Jesus. Amen.

PRESIDENT HEBER J. GRANT.

They say "Mormonism" dies out in the third and fourth generation. You have just been listening to one of the fifth generation.

President Grant referring to the old saying that the third generation would apostatize from the Church remarked that the people had just been listening to the fifth generation—Winslow Smith. His line runs as follows: (1) Asahel Smith; (2) John Smith; (3) George A. Smith; (4) John Henry Smith; (5) Winslow F. Smith.

The President then referred to the fact that the present Presiding Patriarch of the Church is the sixth generation. His line runs as follows: (1) Asahel Smith; (2) Joseph Smith; (3) Hyrum Smith; (4) John Smith; (5) Hyrum F. Smith; (6) Hyrum G. Smith.

ELDER GEORGE W. McCUNE

(President of the Eastern States Mission.)

My dear brethren and sisters. It is indeed an honor to stand before such a vast congregation of Latter-day Saints, and I earnestly desire your faith and prayers that the few words I utter in your presence may be acceptable to the Lord. As our colored brother would say: I feel "powerful weak" in standing before you. I feel weak in myself, but I realize that my strength is in the Lord. I have not been called to this position of my own seeking, but, having been called by the servants of the Lord, I have put my trust in God and feel determined to go forth and do the very best I can. I know that if I do this all will be well; for, as expressed by our beloved president yesterday morning, surely the Lord God will make no requirements at the hands of his servants except he provide a way for the fulfilment or accomplishment of that thing; and so, with

the help of the Lord, I am going out to preach the gospel in the Eastern States mission. I feel that the paramount thing for us as Latter-day Saints today is the preaching of the gospel to the nations of the earth; and, as explained by elder Ballard here this morning, the chastening hand of God has been outstretched in the world, the Lord has been speaking to us through these terrible afflictions of war, famine, pestilence and diseases, and surely the Lord will expect his servants to be there crying repentance unto these people when they are humbled in their spirits, when they are ready to turn to him. The Lord will expect us to be there crying repentance unto them, giving them the opportunity to go in at the gateway. I urge upon you to be ready to make the sacrifices that are necessary to take this great message to the nations of the earth.

I was very much gratified the day before I left New York, when one of the elders who is to accompany elder Smith to Europe came to me and said that his brother, who has been a prosperous farmer in Wyoming, sent word to me that he had leased his farm out and was coming to the Eastern States mission, bringing his wife and daughter and two sons, all of whom would be engaged in the missionary work. I honestly believe that this man is investing his earnings, his profits, his time, and his talents, in the most judicious manner possible. It may be that his associates, in the town where he resides, will make more money within the next few years, but still I believe that this good brother has acted wisely and that his investment will bring him greater dividends, they will bring him greater returns from every

standpoint, except that of mere money. I believe he will so establish his family in the Church and kingdom of God that great blessings will come unto them for generations to come, through this mission he is taking.

My brethren and sisters, I know that this is the work of the Lord that we are engaged in. God has revealed this unto me. The Spirit of the Lord has testified to every fibre of my being, and to my soul, that Joseph Smith is a prophet of God, and those who have succeeded him in the presidency of our Church are his rightful successors, that Heber J. Grant today is the mouthpiece of God on earth. He having called me to this position, I gladly respond, and though it seemed like a great sacrifice at first, I feel, as expressed by Elder Smith, to rejoice that the Lord has called me; and now that the first step has been taken, and I have broken loose from the influence of the world and have partaken of the spirit and the joy of missionary work, I feel grateful to my father in heaven that I have been considered worthy to take this mission. I am very glad indeed that I am going. I want to assure my brethren of the First Presidency and the Twelve, and all of the presiding brethren, that they have my hearty support, that they have my love and my friendship. The same is true of you, my brethren and sisters, and all mankind. Toward you I have nothing in my heart but love and good fellowship. I pray that God will bless you and that he will bless me and give me the spirit of my calling; that when your sons and your daughters shall come to the Eastern States mission, that I may have wisdom to give them in-

structions that will make them strong in the fight for truth and righteousness. Brethren and sisters, support me to this end, and I know that this thing will be accomplished.

May God add his blessings to all that has been said today, that our hearts may be made to rejoice, that the young and the old may be able to stand up and say, as one of old has said, "I know that my Redeemer liveth, and that he shall stand at the latter day upon the earth: And though after my skin worms destroy this body, yet in my flesh shall I see God." I pray that this may be our happy lot, that we may be firm in the fight for truth and righteousness, and I pray for these things in Jesus' name, Amen.

ELDER WALTER P. MONSON
(Retiring President of the Eastern States Mission.)

While walking down Broadway, one day, a newsboy ran into me. I asked him if he could not see me, and he said: "I can see you with my naked eye." I am inclined to think that President Grant also can see me, though I get in the back end of the gallery.

I assure you, my brethren and sisters, that this is a very pleasurable opportunity, afforded me this afternoon to mingle my humble testimony with the testimonies that have already been borne during this conference. I uphold and sustain the work of the Lord with all my heart. The Spirit of the Lord bears witness to my spirit that what was done in our forenoon meeting yesterday is of the Lord. I have always taken great pleasure in standing before the public committing myself to my public utterances. Therein, I believe, lies

much of the strength of the Church in the developing of integrity of heart and character which stands for right. I, too, have spent a number of years in the ministry, years that have been the happiest of my life. In the year 1898, I was called, not by receiving a Box "B" letter, but called by President George Q. Cannon in a conference that was being held in Franklin, Idaho. I was set apart within a few minutes after the call, and was told that my place was in the Northwestern states. One month after the call I was pursuing my labors. After completing my mission there, to the satisfaction of those who presided over me, I returned to my home, entered into pursuits of life which I had chosen, and was allowed to remain home nine years, when the call came for me to go to England. I labored there upward of two years and found increasing joy with the increasing time spent in the service of the master. After completing that mission I was at home twenty-eight months, when the call came again to break up home and go to the Eastern States. My brethren and sisters, I can not tell you the humility which I felt, and the timidity with which I entered upon my labors. It seemed to me that if there was ever an attempt to fit a square peg in a round hole, the attempt was being made on that occasion. Yet, I have endeavored to perform my labors to the best of my ability, and if I have made mistakes it should be accredited to the human weakness which we all have. In my last missionary labors I have felt even greater joy than I felt on my two preceding missions. I want to be one with the Latter-day Saints at home or abroad, wherever I am. I

rejoice in the testimony of the gospel which the Lord has instilled into my heart, and which I feel has influenced my life for good, that has awakened within me the consciousness of right and wrong. I have observed, in my past life, in fact, it was one of my earliest observations, that when the Lord called any one to any position in his work him he qualified. How many of us have seen bishops and stake presidents called in their young manhood and who, upon assuming their duties, have stood solidly and equal to the task that has been imposed upon them. They have been able to counsel in righteousness those who, from a standpoint of years, are old enough to be their fathers and their grandfathers.

I bespeak for Brother McCune in his appointment as mission president the support of the Saints and the missionaries of the Eastern states mission, which is now upon the verge, I believe, of a tremendous and beautiful growth. We have had nothing to do with the publication of the literature of the missions of the United States, such as has been the experience of and as reported by President Ellsworth, but we have opened up a number of branches. We have worked diligently, though our reports may not show what other mission reports might show. It must be understood that the intolerance of the United States seems to have been crowded into the northeastern part, and I do not know where it can go unless it sinks into the ocean after a few more years' efficient work there. We have met with a great deal of opposition. The Lord has sustained us. Our young men, many of them, say they have come to the mission field to gain a

testimony—I can not believe this, my brethren and sisters, though that is the method of their expressing themselves—I believe every son and daughter of the Lord who has been born under the covenant, with the promises of the covenant upon their heads, that they come into this world with nobility of spirit and with a testimony which requires only development. That development can come by the service which we devote to the blessing of our fellow men and the establishing of the work of the Lord among our heavenly Father's children. My heart is filled with joy and gladness in knowing that I have kept close enough, at least, to the prescribed rule of the Church, to retain my testimony. I know that God lives, that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him. I know that his hand is over this people; even though trials may come which might seem difficult to surmount, he will bear us off triumphant in the decree that we will place our whole-souled dependence upon him. I bear testimony that Jesus Christ is the savior of the world, the only begotten of the Father in the flesh; that he died for mankind and that he has given unto us a plan of life and salvation, which plan is being advocated in the world today by those whom the Lord calls as missionaries, as well as those who preside and preach at home. I also bear witness that the powers of the Holy Spirit have not been abridged or abrogated, that they are as manifest in the Church today in the healing of the sick and the raising of those who are downcast in spirit, restoring their souls, leading them in the ways of peace and happiness, as it was ever its mission to do

in any former generation. I bear witness to you and solemnly testify that if I know anything whatsoever in this world, I do positively know that Joseph Smith was a prophet of the true and the living God, raised up in our day and time for the ushering in of the dispensation of the fulness of times, when all dispensations of the past shall be brought in with their especial and peculiar blessings. I bear witness to you that those who have succeeded the prophet Joseph Smith were also prophets, seers and revelators, upheld and sustained by the power of Almighty God. I bear witness to you today that Heber J. Grant, whom we have voted to sustain, as the leader of this Church, is the prophet, seer and revelator of the Church, and that the mantle of authority has fallen upon him, and, that he, too, is qualified in full measure to lead and direct the work of the Lord that is being performed by this people. This Church has its peculiar mission, two-fold as it is, in not only carrying the gospel to the ends of the earth to those who have not the gospel, but also in perfecting those who are members of the Church. Now may the peace of our heavenly Father rest upon all Israel, at home and abroad, that they may see more clearly the plans and purposes that he has wrought for the salvation of the human family. May we keep our covenants sacred and always live worthy of the approbation of our heavenly Father, that we may claim his blessings, is my humble prayer, and I ask it in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

Miss Shipp sang a solo: accompanied by Tracy Y. Cannon at the organ, and Mae An'erson, violin.

ELDER JOHN L. HERRICK

(Retiring President of the Western States Mission.)

If it were possible, I feel more today the need of your faith than I did when I occupied this stand in a like capacity a little over ten years ago. In many ways we have realized the truth of the words of our Lord and Master in saying: "And every one that hath forsaken houses, or brethren, or sisters or father, or mother, or wife, or children, or lands, for my name's sake, shall receive an hundredfold, and shall inherit everlasting life." What we failed to receive, I have faith that we will receive, and the blessings of the Lord will come to us in such measure as we deserve. Not in a material sense have we increased an hundredfold—for I have been connected with no business during that time, other than mission work, but in divers ways, we have been the recipients of such blessings that it is beyond my power to describe. I entered upon the duties of a mission, under a blessing from President Anthon H. Lund, and I acknowledge to you today that I have received the blessings that he promised at that time. I acknowledge also to you that the blessings that were promised to my wife have been more than realized upon her head; and next to the inspiration that has come to me, through the ministration of Christ, the efforts of my wife have been one of the greatest sources of support and helpfulness. "Life will give us back whatever we put into it," said a prominent writer. "In many ways, it is like a bank. Put joy into the world and it will come back to you with compound interest; but you cannot check out either money

or happiness unless you have made deposits. If you put in joy and love, unselfishness and a little laughter and faith, they'll all come back some day."

I need hardly go into details at this time, to tell you what we have accomplished in the Western States mission, and I think it is not looked for. Suffice it to say that we have increased the population nearly four times, and the receipts about ten times. In turning over the mission to our successor, President John M. Knight, we can only hope that he will find there a responsive chord in the hearts and the minds of the people. I believe he will find the going comparatively easy, although I am sure that from now on we may look for greater success in the mission fields, than ever before. I confidently look for it. I believe the time is at hand when men of understanding and men of power and influence will go forth in full purpose of heart, and in the authority of God will bring untold thousands to a knowledge of the truth.

I acknowledge with deep gratitude my connection with my brethren, the mission presidents. It has ever been a source of joy and of satisfaction to labor with them. They are men of God and whether they remain in the field or go elsewhere, my prayer and my good wishes shall always be with them.

I regard highly and am deeply grateful for the association that I had with the late President Joseph F. Smith and his associates, his counselors, and I am no less grateful for even a brief association with those who have been chosen to succeed him. This work will go on. The man who stands at the head of the Church today is the appointed

of the Lord, and he will lead this Church with just as much wisdom as the first prophet in the last dispensation, according to its needs. These men who have been selected for the Council of the Twelve are all wonderful characters, and I feel it a compliment to the missions that one of their number has been chosen to be an apostle in this day.

I bear you my witness to the knowledge that has come to me of the divinity of this work. It is truly the Lord's work. His servant, Joseph Smith, was divinely called, divinely inspired, and he was led in all his acts by the wisdom of the Almighty. My testimony has grown with the months and years of service, and I do not regret one moment of the time that we have put in the service of the Church.

If I may be permitted to say it; I want to refer to the overpowering thought that came to me in the last few months of our mission work, and I have not hesitated to speak of it among our people in the world; and that is that we should stand as a bulwark in defense of this nation. We should stand by him who is at the head of it at this critical period, just as we should support our leader who sits upon this stand today, and believe me I do not say it in any partisan spirit. I say it because I firmly believe that in the culmination of this great world peace conference, a League of Nations is to come and it will be a step forward in the interest of humanity—a step forward in the interest of religion. In it we can realize in a sense that we are approaching the day that we have long dreamed of and hoped for, when there should be a universal peace. God hasten the day, and let

us realize the importance of this unique work. Let us resolve, if the time comes, that it needs our support, that we* should cast our vote and use our influence in order that the world may be made better and safer to live in, better to live in than ever before.

Grant, O Lord, blessings to this people, to thine appointed servants, and hasten the advancement of thy great work established in the world, I pray in the name of Jesus. Amen.

ELDER JOHN M. KNIGHT

(President of the Western States Mission.)

The testimonies that have been borne during the sessions of this conference have impressed me as I have never been impressed before. I am grateful for the fellowship that I have with you, my brethren and sisters.

As I witnessed the magnificent assembly on Sunday morning, and realized that assembled on that occasion was the best body of men that could be brought together under heaven, I thanked God for my fellowship and association with you. I was grateful in my heart for the testimony of the truth that has been borne in upon my life. I was grateful unto my Father for the belief that I had in the mission of his Son, the Redeemer of mankind, and I thanked the Lord that the opportunity had come again to me to go forth to the nations of the earth and bear witness of the restored gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ.

It was my good fortune, in 1895, to be called upon a mission. I had desired, like the other brethren, from my early childhood to preach

the gospel of repentance to the nations of the earth. My grandfather and many of my relatives had been active in the mission field. My grandfather had filled four missions abroad. I had listened to the testimony that he bore concerning the gospel, concerning the Prophet Joseph Smith, and the other men who were instruments in establishing this work in the earth. I believed it, with all my heart, and it was my desire to proclaim that truth to the nations of the earth. I found joy unspeakable, when I first went into the mission field, in testifying to the world that there was need of a new revelation from God, that there was need of a new prophet in this dispensation, and that Joseph Smith was that prophet. I never felt to apologize for the faith that I had in "Mormonism." It was a pleasure to testify that it came to the forefront without any apology whatsoever for its existence. It was a pleasure to invite all men to make the fullest and freest investigation of all its principles, its doctrines, its precepts and commandments, and to declare unto them that if they would have faith in God and repent of their sins, they might know the truth, and the truth would make them free.

I rejoice in the testimony of the gospel that has come into my life. I know that it is true. I know that Jesus is the Redeemer of the world, and that Joseph Smith was his prophet. I have faith and confidence in the presiding brethren of the Church. I uphold and sustain them with all my heart. I have not only rejoiced, my brethren and sisters, in laboring in the ministry abroad but I have had satisfaction in laboring at home. I have had just as much joy come into my life

in giving service to the cause in the Stakes of Zion where I have lived, as I received in the mission field, and I have felt that we should give service to the Church. I have fully felt compensated for all the efforts and service I have ever given to the Church. What we call sacrifice to me was no sacrifice at all, because I have been repaid for every effort that I have put forth.

I shall go into the mission field in the humility of my heart, and endeavor in my weak way to accomplish the mission that is laid upon me. I testify to you, my brethren and sisters, that I have full faith in the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ, and that it is my desire to preach the gospel of repentance to the people of this generation. May the blessings of heaven attend you in all of your undertakings, and may God's choicest blessings attend the presiding authorities of the Church; may they have power and influence with the Latter-day Saints, and may we have a disposition to put into practice in our daily lives the instructions that we receive from them. God bless you, I pray, in the name of Jesus. Amen.

ELDER HEBER C. IVERSON

(President of the Northwestern States Mission.)

I share the feeling expressed by the worthy man whom I am succeeding, in his splendid address to us this morning, when he said: "Standing in the presence of my new responsibility I feel truly weak, insignificant and almost helpless." Once before in my life have I felt almost, if not wholly, as I do today. That was when, twenty years ago, I was called to preside over

the ward in which I was born and have lived all my life, called as a boy to preside over one of the largest wards in Salt Lake City, and three men who had formerly been my bishops. I sincerely trust that as the Lord was good to me in that ministry, and that those over whom I presided were patient and loving and kind, that he will again be good to me and that those among whom I labor will bear with me in my weakness, with my many imperfections, and that I may find in the ministry now before me the same joy that I had in the ministry that I have just completed. I am conscious of the fact that I am following in the footsteps of a mighty man in Israel. He enjoyed, to a very marked degree, the love and the confidence of the people among whom he labored, and I do not wonder at this, for my association with him, during a few days, has endeared him to me. They love him no more than I do; my belief is that to the cause I have consecrated, in the same measure that he did, my humble ability and every sentiment of my being, and sincerely trust that God will recognize that consecration, and that he will give to me the ability and strength to do what is in my heart—my duty to my fellow men, whom I love as God's children.

I have been overwhelmed, my dear brethren and sisters, with the magnitude of the work and the possibilities that lie before us. This is the hour, and we have the message for which the sorrow-stricken world is crying. Unfortunately it bears an unpopular label. If known by some other name, it might be more acceptable. An illustration of this fact was in evidence when a lady

in Seattle, approached by one of our elders, in conversation, the articles appearing in the paper published there, written by Brother Talmage, were under discussion and she expressed her admiration for those splendid articles—which, by the way, I want to say to you, are doing an immense amount of good—and when told that they were written by a member of the "Mormon" Church she absolutely refused to believe it. For she could not think that any such good could come out of "Mormondom." Like those of old, "can any good come out of Nazareth?" But conditions have very greatly changed. The sentiment toward our people has changed since my last mission in the state of Tennessee, in connection with my dear associate and friend, Elder George Albert Smith. When there, we found that objections to our message, and ridicule, was the rule. Now we find such to be the exception, when our elders approach those to whom they desire to deliver the message, and I am thankful for the changed sentiment. I am thankful for my association with Elder George Albert Smith in the mission field in Tennessee, and I cannot forebear this opportunity of invoking the blessings of the Lord upon him, indicating my feeling for him. Since laboring in Tennessee together we have been very close friends. Now we separate—he to go to the East and I to the West, and I sincerely pray that God will bless him, strengthen him in body, renew him in spirit, and return him to us to live many years, to continue his labors as a pillar and tower of strength in this work and an inspiration to all Israel, as he has been these many years, a most worthy son of a most noble sire—

John Henry Smith. I know I voice your sentiments when I thus speak, though feebly.

I am convinced, my brethren and sisters, from the articles that appear from time to time, written by eminent thinkers, that as Elder McKay expressed it this morning, all institutions of human construction have been shaken from center to circumference, during the past few years, and the so-called Christian churches—for they belong to this class, being of human origin, formed by human wisdom—are not an exception to the rule; and as one has expressed it; "Modern Christianity has been tried in the trenches and found wanting, and the experiences of the past year have proved the death of mystic Christianity." "Let us hope and pray that it may be the birth of an ethical, practical Christianity which men really believe and live." It is for this reality the world is crying—not for a religion founded upon a God that is immaterial, invisible, incomprehensible—no, but upon a God who is a reality, and with the message which the children of men need; knowing that in the language of the poet,

"Life is real, life is earnest,
And the grave is not its goal.
Dust thou art, to dust returnest,
Was not spoken of the soul;"

And, as Carlyle has said: "Remember that thy life is not an idle dream, it is a sacred reality, all thine own, and the only thing thou hast with which to face eternity." So, we believe in a real God, who is really our Father, as Paul has declared—"We have had fathers of the flesh which corrected us, and we gave them reverence"—they were real beings; there was noth-

ing mystical about them—"should we not much rather be in subjection to the Father of our spirits and live?" He is the Father of our spirits, and he is just as real a being as was the one whom we knew and called father in the flesh. That is our message to the world. We have been criticised because we are "too materialistic." If by that our critics mean consecrated to and devoted to the pursuit of wealth and material things, primarily, we say, Not guilty. We do believe in the reality of life, in the reality of God, whose Son was the Redeemer of the world; was the Babe of Bethlehem, was the carpenter of Nazareth, was the crucified One, on Calvary's cross, and the body risen from the tomb of Joseph of Arimathaea—the disciples being told to behold the prints of the nails in his hands and feet, and the wounds of the spear in his side; "Handle me and see, for a spirit hath not flesh

and bones, as ye see me have"—thus indicating realities in which we believe and which we know to be true; knowing that real beings, Peter, James and John conferred upon Joseph Smith the Melchizedek priesthood; that John the Baptist, a real being, conferred upon him the Aaronic priesthood. We know that these things are true; and this is our message to the world. God help us to bear it, and may the Lord bless you, my brethren and sisters. These brethren know my sentiments toward them. Every sentiment of my soul, with all its love and affection, belongs to those who lead Israel. God help them and us, I pray, in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

The choir and congregation sang the Doxology, and the closing prayer was offered by Elder Clarence Gardner, president of the Star Valley stake of Zion.

THIRD DAY.

Conference continued in the Tabernacle on Tuesday, June 3, 1919. President Heber J. Grant, presided and called the congregation to order at 10 o'clock a. m.

The choir and congregation sang "High on the mountain top."

Prayer was offered by President Joseph R. Shepherd, of the Logan Temple.

Mrs. Francisca Parkinson sang a solo: "My heart ever faithful."

PRESIDENT HEBER J. GRANT

I am sure that all the presidents of our missions have had the perfect love, confidence and respect, and the daily faith and prayers of all the Church leaders, as they have had mine, morning and night, for their success in the mission field, each and all of them.

CONCERNING THE MISSION PRESIDENTS

I regret to learn that in some sections there is a feeling that there must be something wrong or releases would not be given to the men who have labored so long, so faithfully, with such energy and zeal and with the inspiration of the Lord in the mission field. I desire to correct any such impression on the part of any of the Latter-day Saints.

Some years ago it was the unanimous opinion of the Council of the Twelve that it would be fair to the men who had been many years in the mission field, to be released and to have the opportunity of re-

turning to their homes. The Council so unanimously recommended, but further action on the matter was deferred. Soon after the death of President Smith the Twelve Apostles again recommended to the presidency the honorable release of some of the men who had spent long years in the mission field. It so happened that this recommendation was made at a meeting where President Anthon H. Lund presided, and it so happened that Brother Heber J. Grant and Brother Charles W. Penrose were members of the quorum when the original recommendation was made. So you can plainly see that it happened to be strictly unanimous with the First Presidency and all of the Twelve that we should honorably release some of our mission presidents.

I want to say that they have labored with untiring zeal and energy; that they have gained not only the love, the confidence and respect of the general authorities of the Church, but I am sure from my experience in traveling in all of their missions that they have gained the love and confidence of the people with whom they have labored; and because of that intense love, which has grown up in the hearts of the people for those who preside over them in the mission field, some of the Saints have been broken-hearted over the releases that have been made. I felt that it was only fair to say this. I want to say that all of these brethren will always have a seat here and be counted as mis-

sion presidents. They have our love and our confidence. When I called for one of the brethren yesterday, he had to come from the gallery. He perhaps felt that, as his successor had been installed, this was not his place. But we expect those men always to come here. We expect to look upon them as faithful, diligent mission presidents. Whenever an announcement is made from this stand that there will be a special priesthood meeting to which presidents of missions are invited, it will include all of those who have presided and who are now released. We want them to feel that they belong with the mission presidents and are invited. I wanted to say this much.

OUR CHAPLAINS IN THE ARMY

As was read here yesterday in the statistical report, we were entitled to twenty chaplains and we only have had three. Two of these chaplains—Calvin S. Smith and Herbert Maw saw active service on the firing line. I understand that Brother Smith was wounded three times, and has been decorated for bravery. He is a son of President Joseph F. Smith.

In that wonderful charge of the marines, at Chateau-Thierry, which will go down in history, where six thousand, two hundred out of eight thousand men were killed or wounded, one of President Francis M. Lyman's sons, named after your humble servant, lost his life.

I wish to say here that the general authorities of the Church are very grateful to General Richard W. Young who volunteered, although beyond the age limit, to accept the position of colonel in the army. He had a very excellent oversight and care of the boys from

the state of Utah, and was subsequently advanced to the rank of brigadier general. Our hearts go out in gratitude to him for again offering his services to his country, as he did in the Spanish American war, when he served in the Philippines.

We are grateful to Brother B. H. Roberts, who also volunteered, notwithstanding he was beyond the age limit, and did splendid service in looking after our boys, as chaplain. He gained their love and their confidence and had an excellent influence over them for good. I desire to say this much with reference to the patriotic service of these men.

ELDER CHARLES A. CALLIS

(President of the Southern States Mission.)

My brethren and sisters: I know that the mission presidents are grateful to President Grant for his complimentary expressions of love and confidence with reference to the retiring mission presidents. From my heart—and I speak also for my companions—I can truthfully say that we have the deepest and sincerest love and confidence for the President of the Church, because we know that he is affectionately disposed towards the missionaries, and to all the people of God, and to the children of men generally.

God's truth is marching on in the world. Through his servants, our heavenly Father is opening many effectual doors for the preaching of the gospel. The articles being published in many of the newspapers of the country—which articles are contributed by Elder James E. Talmage, of the Council of the Twelve—are being

widely read. They are being read by statesmen and business men who are not easily reached by the traveling elders. A short time ago a newspaper in the south published a sermon delivered in this building by Elder Orson F. Whitney. The sermon was received with great favor by the non-members of the Church. It created much interest in the gospel, and the state historical society of the state in which the newspaper is published, requested that I forward to them the standard works of the Church and such other information as would enlighten the people of the state generally upon the doctrines of the Church.

*"The swift messengers are treading
Thy high courts where princes
dwell,
And thy glorious light is spreading,
Zion prospers, all is well."*

The Apostle Paul said: "Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, and have not charity, I am become as sounding brass, or a tinkling cymbal."

My brethren and sisters, the missionaries who go forth into the world are imbued with deep love for the children of men. This love may be called the spirit of their mission, and when an elder chances by neglect to lose that spirit, he becomes indeed as sounding brass and a tinkling cymbal; but thank God the cases where this misfortune occurs are few and far between.

The Psalmist David said: "It is good for me that I have been afflicted; that I might learn thy statutes. The law of thy mouth is better unto me than thousands of gold and silver." Why? Be-

cause as David said: "The law of the Lord is perfect, converting the soul: the testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple." The souls of these missionaries who go forth to preach the gospel are converted, and the souls of the Latter-day Saints are converted. They stand on a secure and firm foundation.

Someone has said that we are sons, not pets; that we are to be treated with kindness, but not spoiled. So, my brethren and sisters, the experiences through which the Lord permits us to pass, or those experiences through which he leads us, will ultimately result in our good: for, as the Apostle Paul said, "The Lord will make all things work together for good, to those who love him." The Latter-day Saints are a great people because they believe, as the Savior said, "It is more blessed to give than to receive." It is not that which we receive which makes us great, but it is that which we give; and the spirit of sacrifice manifested by the members of this Church, is the spirit that makes them great in the sight of God, great in the sight of good men and good women, and a power—an evangelizing power of great good in all the world.

The Apostle Paul was told by the Lord that he must go before Caesar, and he embarked on a ship to accomplish that perilous journey. He counseled the captain of the ship to stay in a certain place that winter because, there was danger in leaving that place; but this man did not obey his counsel, and the way of the counsel-breaker is hard. A certain navigator was asked by a passenger on a ship if he knew where the rocks were, "No," said

he, "But I know where they are not." That is the safe guide,—not to look for sin, not to look for those evils, but to tread the path of life, the path of counsel, where we know that these sins and evils are not. Well, they disobeyed Paul's counsel, but the Lord told him that his life and the life of the passengers of the ship would be saved. The ship's crew became fearful for their safety and they were about to abandon the ship, and leave it with its precious cargo to its fate; but Paul said to the centurian, speaking of the officers and the crew. "Except these abide in the ship, we cannot be saved." There is the lesson: except the apostles and prophets abide in the ship of Zion, we cannot be saved; for God has placed these men in his Church for the edification of his people, for perfecting them in the doctrines of Jesus Christ, for bringing the people to the unity of the faith. These men have been endowed with powers to perform sacred ordinances for the living and for the dead—which the Latter-day Saints regard as essential to their salvation—and without these men we cannot be saved in the fulness of salvation, in the enjoyment of the great boon of eternal life. The Church is built upon the foundation of prophets and apostles, Jesus Christ, himself, being the chief cornerstone.

Once in a certain harbor a mighty tempest arose and the commander wanted to get his fleet out in the open sea, away from the rocky and barren shores so that he would not be destroyed. The tempest knocked those ships about, and sailors were washed overboard. While the storm was raging with great fury, the commander at the most critical moment ordered the

band to play the Star Spangled Banner. As the strains of that immortal national anthem went over the storm-tossed sea, the sailors took heart, they fought with redoubled energy, they battled with the elements with renewed strength, and those sailors, drowning in the sea, with the last vestige of their strength, raised their hands and voices in praise of the flag and the Star Spangled Banner, the music of which was comforting their souls. In this Church, where stand the First Presidency and the Twelve, there is solid ground. On other grounds are sinking sands. There need be no doubt. These servants of God whom we love will always sound the true notes, they will always cause the music of the gospel to be sounded to the comforting and the salvation of the children of God. The poet's prayer, "God give us men," has been answered. He gave this nation men who went to a foreign shore and palsied the strong arm of autocracy. He has placed in this Church men of counsel, men of God, true shepherds of the people. God bless these men that they may ever remain in the ship of Zion, in the Church, to our comfort and salvation; and may we sustain them, with loving and loyal hearts, is my prayer in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

ELDER JOSEPH E. ROBINSON

(Retiring President of the California Mission.)

"Now I know that the Lord is greater than all gods, for in the thing wherein they dealt proudly, he was above them." These are the words of the Midianite High Priest, Jethro, to his son-in-law,

Moses, the great law-giver of ancient Israel. Aaron's rod had budded, evolved into a serpent, and had devoured the sacred snake of the Egyptians, their symbol of kingly power and priestcraft. The river Nile, which they worshiped as a cleanser of sin and a healer of diseases, had become a loathsome thing. Hathor and Isis, and the sacred beetle had been brought to naught by the thunder, the hail, and the plague of lice and flies. The frog which was supposed to be a purifier of water and upon which no man could tread even inadvertently and escape the penalty of death—had befouled their bedrooms, their kneading troughs, and had become a loathsome detestable plague. The great god Apis whom they worshiped in the temple at Memphis had doubtless died when the common cattle of the Egyptians died by pestilence. The great god Ra, who painted the flowers and ripened their harvests, had been darkened, and then Osiris himself, the god of life, was put to shame when the first-born among the Egyptians had been brought to death. When these things were related by Moses to his father-in-law, he declared, as I have read to you: "Now I know that the Lord is greater than all gods."

I can say, after nineteen years in the mission field: "Now I know that God is greater than all gods." I have seen the sick healed, the paralytic to leap with joy, the lame to walk, the eyes of the blind to see and the ears of the deaf have been opened, and angels have ministered to the sons of men. The prisoner has been visited and, when worthy, set free. The sick have been comforted, the dead have been properly cared for. The froward and unto-

ward of our youth, and their elders, too, who have left the body of the Church and have drifted out to the Coast to get away from themselves; and people, have been felt after and constrained to follow again in the paths of virtue and truth, and God has wonderfully magnified the weak things of the earth, his servants, the brethren and sisters engaged in the ministry.

I welcome the respite tendered me by my release. I have interests at heart that need my direction more than the affairs of the mission field. Therefore, I am glad to come home to my loved ones, to come home where the House of God is builded, that perhaps therein I may have the chance to labor for my sacred dead. I am glad to come here where I may sit under the droppings of the sanctuary and be chastened in judgment and instructed in words of life and salvation by those men whom God hath chosen, and set at our head to direct the activities of his people and to shape the destiny of his Church.

I am grateful and thankful for him who has been appointed to succeed me in the mission field, a man whom I have loved so long, and unto whom God has given such a wondrous testimony that few ever stirred my soul as his testimony has moved it in times past. I feel that he will be kind to my faults, and that he will magnify what virtues I may have possessed in my presidency. It is delightful, it is gracious, my brethren and sisters, to be freed of the great responsibility that rested upon me, and to be one with you again. When I went into the field—and I may be pardoned perhaps for speaking half personally for once, as I am not wont to do it—but when I went into the

mission field there were less than six hundred souls, about four hundred whom we knew and who were of record. I have had the privilege of seeing the work of God grow until there are five thousand enrolled; and from a few meager possessions, through the magnanimous generosity of the Trustee-in-Trust and the brethren at our head, and by the help of the faithful tithe payers among the mission Saints, and by donations that have come from godly friends who have visited us, it has increased in properties to more than the sum of one hundred thousand dollars value. Many beautiful buildings have been erected, in which the name of God is named, and ground has been reclaimed for Zion, that the name of our Lord should be declared therein and the Saints be dealt the bread of life. So whilst there cannot help but be some heart pangs at parting with loved ones and a man's life work, still there is rich compensation in their love and confidence in their expressions of good will and blessing, as there is a recompense in the kindly words and deeds which have been shown to me and mine by those who preside over us.

This is the Lord's work it does not depend on any one man. God is at the helm. He will direct our efforts. He will take care of his own; and although the sons of this generation, who know him not, may be wiser than the children of light, as the scriptures have said, God will magnify his people and their light shall shine; the Gentiles shall be brought to the gladness of its rising; and the day will come when every knee shall bow and every

tongue shall confess that Jesus is the Christ.

I have not only matured my faith in God but in his children, mankind at large. I love my Father's children. I confide in them, I trust them, many of them who are aliens to our faith and creed, but I find that they are truly the children of God. I have seen them under such conditions that evidenced this fact, that when brought to some dread extremity they realize, just as well as did Peter, when some disciples left the Master, because of his saying of himself, that he was the bread of life, which had come down from heaven, and he turned to them and said: "Will ye also go away?" and Peter answered, "Lord, to whom shall we go? thou hast the words of eternal life, and we believe and are sure that thou art that Christ, the Son of the living God." When earthquake and fire laid waste our great city of the Coast I saw not only the saint, the priest, and the nun, but the wanton with her paramour, bend on their knees and ask God to deliver them from that dread thing which they felt hung over them, which no other hand could stay. There was no comfort in the dram shop; there was no power in riches, there was no succor by the hand of man; and then for once, at least, they were all made to realize that God is over all and that aside from him there is no help and no salvation. He will speak by fire and earthquake, by pestilence and plague when necessary, and happy are they who, even when thus chastened, turn unto him and live. I admonish you, my brethren and sisters, to fight the good fight, to keep the faith, to finish the

course, that henceforth for you and all those who love God's appearing, there shall be a crown of righteousness which he will bestow upon his faithful ones. I desire, above all else that I shall be found faithful and true with you; that my guerdon shall be the one of eternal life, in the presence of my Redeemer, my King, my Lord, and my Savior, Jesus Christ, and I ask it in his name. Amen.

ELDER JOSEPH W. McMURRIN

(Of the Council of Seventy, and
President of the California
Mission.)

I have had some reminiscent thoughts passing through my mind while sitting in the congregation, my brethren and sisters, listening to the splendid words that have been spoken by the presiding authorities of the Church and by the mission presidents who have been called to address these conference meetings. It seems to me but a very brief time since I said farewell to a girl-wife and a little baby and went abroad as a boy missionary. Of course, quite a term of years has passed away since that time, but as I look back it seems a very brief period indeed. I was somewhat impressed today in thinking that, brief as the time appears to me, so far as I know, I am the oldest man with one exception of all the mission presidents in the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, and I am impressed with the thought that time is passing very swiftly. President Joseph F. Smith oftentimes in speaking with reference to the mission presidents spoke of them as "boys." I don't know whether the present presidency of the Church looked upon

me as a boy, like the other mission presidents, when they called me to the responsibility that has recently been placed upon my shoulders. I feel in some respects quite a boy, and in other ways not as boyish by any means as I was when I went upon my first mission.

My heart is filled with gratitude today that my Father in heaven, in his wonderful kindness, gave me the privilege, in the days of my boyhood, to go abroad as a representative of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. The experiences gained in the mission field during my first mission, convinced me beyond any question of doubt that I was not upon the errand of man, but that in spite of my lack of experience, and lack of worthiness, I had actually been called of God to preach the gospel of his Son, and that I had been endowed with authority, even the authority of the holy priesthood, and actually had the right to legally call men to repentance, and to administer unto them the precious ordinances of the everlasting gospel. The experiences gained, away back at that period, filled my heart with a joy and gladness that passeth all understanding, just as the Savior promised to those who would take up their cross and follow him.

During the period from 1881 to 1896, it was my blessed privilege to be called, upon three separate occasions, to go to the European mission as an elder of the Church. I thank God today for those calls. In all of those missionary labors, I had many very happy experiences, and saw the hand of God in a marvelous manner upon many occasions. I have had a happy life, my brethren and sisters, because of the gospel of the Redeemer of the world.

I have not accumulated very much of the good things of the world, but I am thankful to say I have always been quite comfortable. At times, of course, like many others, I could have wished for more of the things of the world, but in spite of this, I say again, I have had a most joyful and happy life, happy in the knowledge that I was a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, and that this Church is indeed the Church of the living God. This Church is not a church established by the wisdom of men, but a Church established by the revelation and commandment of God. The knowledge of this truth has been with me during these years, and has filled me with very great joy. I expect to be happy in the labors that shall come to me in the California mission.

I realize, as has been intimated by President Grant, that the hearts of the people of California have been wrenched by the release of President Robinson. He has been with the people of the California mission for the long period that has been named. He has been kind and attentive to the people, laboring early and late for their advantage and blessing, and their hearts have gone out to him. I haven't any doubt but what it will be quite a difficult matter for some of the people of the California mission to accept the new president, but I sincerely hope that through the blessing of God, and by the companionship and direction of his Spirit, I also may be led to pursue such a course as shall be for the blessing of the people. I hope I may be able to keep in mind that I am sent to preach the gospel, and that I must call repentance among the people.

Responsibility is upon me to bear record to those with whom I come in contact that Jesus Christ is the Son of the living God; and that mankind, through his name; and through the ordinances and principles of his gospel, can regain the presence of God. My understanding is that I am under obligation to bear record to the human family that there is but one gospel. God, himself, so declared at the opening of this great dispensation. He has so taught by the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, through the mouths of his apostles in the meridian of time, and all men who have received commissions to preach the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ, from my point of understanding, are under obligation to bear record of the truth, and show to men the way of salvation, and invite and persuade men to receive the principles of the everlasting gospel.

I have a very great comfort in my heart today, my brethren and sisters, in the thought that I have the confidence and the blessing of these splendid men who are the leaders of Israel, to whom reference has been made by President Callis, and many others during our conference. I hope that through their help, and through the help of the people generally, and through striving to keep my feet in the straight and narrow path, I may accomplish some good in the preaching of the gospel. I thank God for the gospel. I thank God for the companionship of good men. How my heart has swelled, again and again, in the missionary field; as I have looked into the faces of my missionary companions, I have praised the name of God most fervently that in his providence I was

permitted to associate with the class of men who represent the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, abroad in the world, as preachers of righteousness. They have all been good men, clean men, sweet men, men who in their countenances, and by their conduct, have attracted the attention of their fellows who were not of our faith, and they have been able to see that there indeed was something about the "Mormon" elders that was different from the general run of men. I thank God such men have been my companions, and that I have been greatly blessed in their association.

God be praised for the accomplishment of the promises that have been made by holy prophets both ancient and modern in regard to the work of the latter times. It seems to me that any man who desires to know, can know that God has introduced this work, his hand has been over the leaders of this people, and he has sustained them up to the present hour. He has magnified them and he has fulfilled all that any reasonable being could expect of the promises made by holy prophets in relation to the work of latter times. I thank God that there is in my soul a disposition to uphold the authority of God. I love to honor that authority, and am thankful that at this moment I can say in all truth, before God, and this congregation, that my heart, my confidence, and my love go out to President Heber J. Grant today in just as full and complete measure as it went out to his great predecessor, President Joseph F. Smith. For I have in my soul an absolute assurance that God has brought President Grant to the presidency, and that the spirit and

power of the great calling that has come to him will be upon him in just as full and rich measure as it has been upon those who have preceded him; it could not be otherwise, because it is the work of God, and God hath wrought this thing. God's blessing, and power, and inspiration, and wisdom, will be manifested today, just as it has been in the past, and so it will continue forever and ever. So hath God said, and he, the scriptures say, shall be true, and his word true, though all men may be liars. God help us to love the truth, to magnify our callings, to keep the commandments of God, to preach the gospel, to win souls from the darkness that is in the world to the truth that has been revealed, I humbly pray in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

PRESIDENT HEBER J. GRANT.

It has been decided to open a new mission to be known as the Canadian mission, being taken from part of the Eastern states and the Northern states missions. Elder Nephi Jensen has been sustained by the presidency to preside over that mission. We will now hear from Elder Jensen.

ELDER NEPHI JENSEN

(President of the Canadian Mission.)

I hope I shall be pardoned if I tell a semi-humorous story to take the strain off my mind.

A certain man, charged with a crime, presented himself at the bar of justice, and the court asked him if he had a lawyer. He said, "No, your honor." The court then said, "You are entitled to counsel, and if

you cannot afford to employ an attorney, the court will appoint you one." The accused man said, "I don't think I shall need any lawyer, because I am going to tell the truth" (laughter). I think a great many of the men who have been my clients in the last ten years will have to tell the truth for a little while, or else employ other counsel.

I am deeply grateful to my Heavenly Father for the confidence which the authorities of the Church have seen fit to repose in me; and I want to tell you, in the depths of humility, that I feel altogether inadequate to the task that has been assigned me. Never in my life have I been so deeply humbled. I recall that a few days after President Grant first spoke to me about this labor, a near relative of mine called me on the 'phone, and I asked her how she felt. "Well," she said, "I have got the grumbles." I told her: "I have a burden on my shoulders now, so big, that it has crushed the grumbles all out of me."

Today I feel like saying in my heart, as Elder Ballard has so frequently sung:

"I'll go where you want me to go,
dear Lord,
I'll say what you want me to say,
I'll do what you want me to do."

I know that the gospel of Jesus Christ is the power of God unto salvation. I have not obtained this knowledge from books. And yet I have lived with books for a quarter of a century. I stand here today and say with all candor that if I had to choose between forgetting the witnesses of the truth which have come to my heart through the Spirit of God, and what I have

learned from books, I should gladly choose to remember that God has told my heart that this is the work of God, and forget what I have read in all the books.

I was deeply impressed with the thought expressed by President Callis this morning, concerning the fact that the elders who go out to preach the gospel of Jesus Christ have been converted. I am an ardent believer in the doctrine of the conversion of the soul. A short time ago, out of curiosity, I read Ernest Haeckel's *Riddle of the Universe*, and I noted that in one of the closing chapters of that famous—I was about to say infamous—book the statement that one of the Greek philosophers, years before Christ ministered among the children of men, taught the Golden Rule. The skeptic, Ernest Haeckel, gave out the inference that this Greek philosopher was greater than Jesus Christ. I thought about it at the time, and have thought about it more since reading the book, and I have figured it out this way: The Greek philosopher, whom Ernest Haeckel mentioned, taught men how to think; Jesus Christ taught men how to pray. Thoughts may bring to us information, but prayer can lift the human heart so close to God that its evil and carnal nature will be destroyed. What this world today needs is men who fight less and pray more. What this world needs is not so much a political revolution as a heart revolution, and I believe with all my heart that there is only one thing that can put the pieces of this distracted world together, and that is the power of God.

We need, in this world, what the Prophet Joseph Smith found in the

grove ninety-nine years ago. On that memorable day that flaxen-haired boy stood in the presence of God and his son Jesus Christ; and when his prayer was answered, he stood forth among men a veritable king. He knew what the kings of the earth did not know. He knew what the philosophers did not know. He knew what the scientists did not know. He knew God, whom to know is life eternal!

The faith that boy discovered that day is the only power that will heal this bruised world. The faith that he discovered that day is the power that will transform the human heart. The faith that he discovered that day will take out of a human heart its hatred, and put into the human heart the love of God, the one thing which will enoble the human race and bring lasting civilization among the children of men.

My brothers and my sisters, I rejoice with all my heart in the knowledge I have that Joseph Smith was a prophet of God. Every time I think about the subject I am reminded of a conversation I had with one of the grandest men who ever lived. I refer to the late Jesse N. Smith, who happens to be my father-in-law. He was at my home a short time before he passed to the other side. One evening he became reminiscent. He talked about the things in this world that had made his heart glad. He spoke of Joseph Smith; and as he referred to that great man, tears came into his eyes.

I said to him: "You become eloquent when you talk of the Prophet Joseph Smith." With a grandeur in his soul that I shall never forget, he said: "Why shouldn't I? It is the darling theme of my heart."

God grant that it may be the darling theme of my heart and your hearts. For our greatest heritage is the faith and the truth that has come down to us from that prophet of God. God help us to appreciate this heritage—"lest we forget, lest we forget."

God help us to bear the burdens which have been placed upon our shoulders. God make our hearts humble that we may have communion with his Spirit, in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

David Rees sang a tenor solo: "Hosannah."

PRESIDENT HEBER J. GRANT

I would like to endorse what was said here by Brother Jensen about his father-in-law. One of the grandest men I have ever known in my life was Jesse N. Smith. He has left one of the largest and most splendid families that I know of in any of the stakes of Zion. It is just such a family as that of President Joseph F. Smith. I have walked more miles and conversed more with Jesse N. Smith than with any other president of a stake of Zion. He was a regular encyclopedia of knowledge. He read Bancroft's *History of the Native Races* as the volumes came from the press the way I used to read the *New York Weekly Ledger*, when a boy. Jesse N. Smith I believe was the best read man of all the men with whom I have been acquainted; yet, thank the Lord, he felt, as Brother Jensen has expressed himself, that his reading was of no value to him in comparison to the testimony of the gospel of Jesus Christ. Really I could never quite understand, when

I was a young man, and the junior apostle and used to travel hour after hour, walking through the sands of Arizona with Jesse N. Smith, why in the world the Lord did not choose him for an apostle instead of me. He told me one thing that I endorsed and that was this: he said that from his reading and studying he believed that "America has produced two wonderfully great and grand statesmen, far above all others, and they both came from Illinois; one was Abraham Lincoln, and the other was Daniel H. Wells. I remember having heard Brigham Young say that Heber C. Kimball was his prophet, and Daniel H. Wells was his statesman.

ELDER E. WESLEY SMITH.

(President of the Hawaiian Mission.)

The desire of my heart is that I may have an interest in your faith and prayers while occupying this position. When President Grant informed me that I had been chosen to preside over the Hawaiian mission I was almost paralyzed; for I know my weakness, but I have faith in God, and I have a testimony that this is the work of God. I have faith and confidence in my brethren. I know that they have been called to these positions through revelation from God, and my faith tells me that God will not call any man to a position in his service and not sustain and assist him, if the man will put himself in a position to receive assistance from the Lord. I love the Lord and I love the work of the Lord. I delight in doing those things that may bring my fellow men, associates, and friends, to a knowledge of the

gospel. It is my heart's purpose and desire to go into the mission field and accomplish all that is in my power to accomplish.

In going out to that land, I go to a field of labor where I commenced this life. During the time when this Church was persecuted, when the leaders were under great distress on account of polygamy, my father was advised to depart from Zion together with my mother, and they went to the Hawaiian Islands. There they served in the work of the Lord with that people. They were there in distress, and it was well, under those circumstances, that I was sent to them. I appreciate the fact that I had been detained on the other side until that day when, during a time of grief and sorrow and distress, I could come into the world and gladden my father's heart. It so happened that when I came into the world I had red hair. This was something new to the Hawaiian people. As you know, they are a dark race, and when they viewed the little red head upon the pillow, they called that baby Kananiolaie-kaweheweheolanihuli, which means that I was born in the home of Lanihuli at Laie on the island of Oahu; and they called me Kaweheweheolanihuli, which means the opening up or ushering in of the glory of Kananiolaie.

My father was called as a missionary to the Hawaiian Islands when he was an orphan boy, fifteen years of age, with little brothers and sisters. He departed for that journey in a company of nineteen others, riding his little pony from this valley as far as San Bernardino, California. There he labored in a mill, making shingles, sold his horse and obtained enough means

to take him, with the other elders, as far as San Francisco. There they entered into an enterprise buying a boat, thinking they could rig out the same and depart for their field of labor. After they had worked for some time, and spent their means in preparing this boat, it was condemned as unseaworthy. They lost their means, they lost their time, and again they had to set about earning means to go over to the mission field.

I have heard father relate many times how he labored as a carpenter in San Francisco, building homes on the sand hills there, and finally purchased passage in the hold of an old sailing vessel. The elders took straw from the manger, bedding from the mules that were being conveyed on the ship, and spread this forage upon the barrels and cargo, and that was their bed. When he arrived in the Hawaiian Islands, the natives there took kindly to him, and they adopted him. There was Napela, one of the great leaders among that nation. He called this boy to him and said: "Iosepa, my home is your home. This horse is your horse; use it." For four years he labored in that mission. He was humble and submissive. In one hundred days from the day he landed there, he commenced his mission work in earnest. He was able to converse in the Hawaiian tongue. Three months practically of this time was spent on a sick bed, suffering from break-bone fever. He learned to love that good people and they loved him. This love that was established in his heart, as a youth, continued to grow and develop until he was released from this life. It was his desire and ambition to live until he could see the comple-

tion of the temple there, and perhaps take part in its dedication, but it was not to be. Therefore, I feel honored in being called to that land, perhaps to represent him.

As the brethren have expressed themselves, I also feel to join in the sentiment of the song that Brother Ballard sings so well: "I'll go where you want me to go, dear Lord, I'll do what you want me to do, and I'll say what what you want me to say."

I might tell you a little concerning the Hawaiian people, among whom I expect soon to labor. Then you may understand why it was that father loved them so much. We read in John 10:16, that the Savior was preaching to the Jews, soon after he had performed a miracle in opening the eyes of the blind. They ridiculed him, made light of his teachings, and would not listen to them. He likened them unto his sheep. He told them that his sheep knew his voice; that he was the gate; that he was their shepherd. And when he saw that they hardened their hearts against him, and would not listen, for they thought they were the only chosen people in the world, the Savior told them: "And other sheep I have, which are not of this fold: them also I must bring, and they shall hear my voice; and there shall be one fold, and one shepherd." Then he said: "Therefore doth my Father love me because I lay down my life, that I might take it up again." "No man taketh it from me, but I lay it down of myself. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again." When he told them: "This commandment I have received of my Father," they knew not what he meant. They had supposed that he meant the

Gentiles when he said: "other sheep;" but he did not meant this. For after he had been crucified and risen and ascended to God on high, he appeared to the other sheep, whom he had mentioned—the Nephites on this continent. He displayed unto them the wounds in his hands, the wound in his side, and revealed unto them what he had said to the people in Jerusalem. He repeated unto them the words, and said: "Ye are the sheep. When I said, other sheep I have which are not of this fold, thy brothers at Jerusalem knew not what I meant."

The Savior went on to relate incidents to them after the organization of the Church, after choosing his apostles in that land. Then he said: "Other sheep I have which are not of this fold; they also should hear my voice." In the 38th reign of the Judges, during the time that Zebulon was the historian, it is recorded there of a man named Hagoth, who was a curious and venturesome man, that he builded many boats, and these boats departed off into the mighty deep, and he said the people "heard not of them again." They supposed that they had been swallowed up in the deep.

The Hawaiian people relate in their history a tradition that they came from Kaaina ka hiki, which means an eastern land, endeavoring evidently, as they did, to sail along the northern coast, having the ships embarked on the western coast of South America near the narrow neck of land, the isthmus of Panama. They were evidently carried by the trade winds and shipwrecked, so that they landed on the island of Hawaii. There they lived and grew and developed into a

mighty people; but they dare not venture to go back again to their native land, for fear of destruction. In later years, however, they became more courageous; the Spirit of the Lord was poured out upon them, and they endeavored to return. But instead of finding themselves back upon the promised land, they again sailed westward and multiplied and populated the Pacific isles from Hawaii as far as New Zealand. The old tradition relates how the Savior appeared and ministered unto them; how he taught them righteousness and noble principles; how they saw the wounds in his hands and in his feet; that when he departed from them, it was with a promise that he would return again to rule and reign in righteousness upon the earth, to be their King and their God. They look forward to the coming of the Son of God, earnestly praying for the time when he shall rule and reign.

We learn that Captain Cook, in his travels, came upon that land. He found a noble people. Though they had departed from Christianity, still they believed in God; they believed in the great God, Lono, and they thought that he, with his boat had sailed to them. They thought Captain Cook was that great God. They worshiped him and looked on him as a God, but he was guilty of wickedness and his people had the plan that had been handed down through tradition to them. His works were evil. He broke and desecrated their laws. When they saw that, they concluded that he was not the great God, Jesus, but that he was the being from the other world, the world of evil spirits. They thought he was Satan. Finally, during a parade on

the isle of Hawaii, on the west coast, Captain Cook was accidentally injured, and as he uttered a shriek of pain, and they saw the blood from his arm, they knew that he could be hurt, that he was not God, and so fell upon him and slew him. We are told that they cut his heart from his body and offered it as a sacrifice.

Later on, the gospel message was taken to that people. They accepted it because they knew it was true. The Lord had said: "My sheep know my voice, and when they hear my voice, they shall rejoice;" and when the Hawaiian people heard the voice of the true shepherd, sent there with the holy priesthood and the power of God, to preach unto them, they knew by that voice that it was the voice of the Shepherd. It sank into their hearts and they believed. Today you can travel over the Pacific isles from Hawaii to New Zealand, and you will find that they are all Christians, they all believe in God. Our work now is to convert them to the true form of Christianity, and make them Latter-day Saints, that they might have a fulness of the gospel; that they might go on, learning day by day the principles of the gospel, until they shall be exalted in the kingdom of heaven.

I rejoice in the fact that a temple has been erected there, and I trust that the Lord will bless and magnify the elders laboring in that field so that they may be inspired to teach the people, to trace their genealogy, that they may be able to find their lineage, because it will be a difficult matter to do. But this work can be accomplished in the house of the Lord, and many shall rejoice and rise up and call the name of the Lord blessed.

I have a testimony that this is the work of the Lord, and I rejoice to be in his service. I have labored three years in the Hawaiian Islands as a missionary. The past five years I have spent in the California mission, serving there under the direction of President Robinson. I love him; he has been a power and a strength to me. He has encouraged and blessed me. He has been to me as a father. I have been in his home and have been as welcome as if I belonged there. He has treated me as well as if I was his own flesh and blood, and he has blessed me. During time of sickness and sorrow, he has always been at my side, and I know that the Lord will bless him and honor and respect him now that he has been released, for he has made a splendid record in that field.

Yesterday, in listening to the remarks of Brother McKay, when he upheld father's family as an example in the Church, I thought I would like to add a little to what he said for the benefit of parents in Zion. Sometimes I think it is a good thing for children to give counsel, for I have had good teachings all my life. I have had a father and a mother who would not permit me to go out at night, unless I would inform them where I was going and when I would return. I was not permitted to come into my home at will, at any hour of the night, but I had to give an account of myself. When I repaired to my bed, it was always after receiving a kiss from my father or my mother, and being tucked in my bed. This was a safeguard over me and a protection. But I dare say there are many parents in Zion who fail to do this. Their children are a law unto themselves.

They go here and there at will. They take automobiles, and go "joy" riding during half of the night, into the wee hours of the morning. They come in any time they desire, go to bed, and the parents never question them to ask where they have been, with whom they have been associating or what they have been doing. My father exercised a supervision over his children, and I think that is the reason why he attained the success that he did in rearing a family that respected him and loved him. It has been my privilege to associate with my father a great deal of my life. During the time I was in California I stayed with him, and was by his side. Since I was married he requested that I remain at the home, and be by his side, where I could assist him, and I have grown to love him not only because he was my father, but because I know that he was a prophet of God. I know that he was inspired of God, and I looked upon him as a prophet, and as my father. This is a little word of counsel from a boy who has had the experience of giving an accounting of himself.

When this life's mission is completed, I expect to be able to meet my Father in heaven and there give an accounting of my labors in the flesh. I desire my Father in heaven to know where I am at night, and where I am in the daytime. I want him to know the company I choose. I want him to know my associates. I want him to watch me when I go to my sleep at night, and have his Holy Spirit to guide me that I may ever be found faithful, walking in the narrow path, seeking to know his will and

praying for strength to do his will.

May the Lord bless everyone of us in Zion that we may realize that the youth of Zion, our boys and girls who are growing up, will become the leaders of this Church, men and women upon whom the responsibility will rest. Therefore, it is your duty to guide your children, to know where they are. Do not give them too much liberty. Make them give an accounting; kiss them when they go to bed at night. If your boy comes in to you with his mouth saturated with liquor or tobacco, or with the stench of smoke upon his clothes, find out why, and cure the evil. This is my prayer in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

PRESIDENT HEBER J. GRANT

I will ask Brother Ballard to sing the song that we have heard about this morning:

Brother Ballard then sang: "I'll go where you want me to go, dear Lord" etc.

The choir and congregation sang: "Come, let us anew our journey pursue."

Prayer for closing was offered by Elder Edward H. Anderson.

CLOSING SESSION.

Conference was called to order at 2 p. m., by President Heber J. Grant, who presided.

The congregation sang: "Praise to the man who communed with Jehovah."

The opening prayer was offered by Elder Stephen L. Chipman, president of the Alpine stake.

The choir and congregation sang: "Redeemer of Israel."

PRESIDENT HEBER J. GRANT.

One of our great missions today is conducted on this block, by Elder Benjamin Goddard and his assistants in the Bureau of Information. We will now hear from Brother Goddard.

ELDER BENJ. GODDARD

(Of the Bureau of Information.)

My brethren and sisters, I trust the Lord will aid me in performing this duty, which comes to me very unexpectedly. I rejoice in the spirit of this conference; my soul has rejoiced within me in listening to the testimonies of my brethren, and performing other duties assigned unto me.

In connection with our work upon this block, I have pleasure in stating that our missionaries—from forty to fifty brethren and sisters—labor most diligently, day after day, in meeting the strangers within our gates. It is our privilege to welcome them to Zion and to represent our faith, telling them that which the Latter-day Saints stand for, directing their attention to the organization of our Church, and speaking of that which was revealed unto the Prophet Joseph Smith; describing also that wonderful vision in the sacred grove, telling them of the authority possessed by our elders who are going to every nation, kindred, tongue and people. We bear testimony unto the strangers who know very little of "Mormonism" when they come within these gates, that God has indeed established his Church

upon the earth, and however feeble our young elders may be who are bearing their testimonies they are laboring in the authority of the holy priesthood. We testify that the Baptist has come again, restoring the Aaronic priesthood. We testify and read unto the enquirers the revelation, Section 27 of the Doctrine and Covenants, showing the great work that God has in store for us, and that the authority of the Melchizedek priesthood has come unto us through the ministrations of Peter, James and John. When the strangers come here they listen most attentively to what we have to say. Our brethren and sisters occasionally have from three hundred to four hundred in one group, who will listen, frequently, to the testimonies that are borne, and will eagerly ask questions and desire to learn more. The spirit of the Latter-day work is on this block; we cannot stand under the shadow of the temple, which we have to do often every day, describing the building, pointing to the figure upon the central tower, representing Moroni who brought unto us the fulness of the gospel, and through whose ministrations we are blest with the Book of Mormon, without feeling the spirit of that sacred house. The people are coming to the tops of the mountains, they are gazing on the House of the Lord, established through the faith and the fidelity of the Latter-day Saints, and are eager to learn just what the work in the temple means. We then explain the great work that you brethren and sisters are engaged in—the mission of Elijah the prophet, "turning the hearts of the fathers to the children, and the hearts of the children to the fathers." This is

something new to the great majority of people who come here, and they eagerly desire to learn more. Women call at times, clad in dark drapery, indicating their bereavement through loved ones being taken away, and they are always interested in the subject of salvation for the dead, and desire to know just how they may meet their loved ones again.

I testify unto you that the work of the Lord is growing in the earth; that a spirit of inquiry is amongst the people. They are anxious to know what "Mormonism" is. We are delighted to tell them what it means, and they go from our midst impressed with that which we have told them, and they are eager to meet our missionaries in other places. One lady missionary returning from the Northern States, last week, told me that in the city of Detroit on one street she had met nine families that had been represented amongst the visitors on this block. They had received of our hospitality and were delighted to receive the missionaries and to learn more with regard to our faith. Thus we endeavor to break down prejudice, to remove bigotry, to impress upon the strangers within our gates that which "Mormonism" stands for—fidelity to God and to all his laws, sustaining the priesthood which God has placed upon the earth.

I rejoice in meeting you, my brethren and sisters, we shall be pleased to welcome and entertain you within the walls of the Bureau of Information. I pray that the Spirit of the Lord may continue to rest upon us; that his work may continue to roll forth, until his purposes are fully established in the earth, and to that end with all my

soul I sustain the man whom you have sustained in this conference as prophet, seer and revelator. God bless the brethren who stand at the head of this Church. May the Lord soften our hearts, make them open to receive the instructions given unto us, and may we have a desire in our hearts continually to fulfil every obligation placed upon us, sustaining the priesthood and laboring for the good of Zion, I ask in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

ELDER SAMUEL O. BENNION

(President of the Central States Mission.)

In the mission field, I have often said to the missionaries that in this Church things do not happen by chance but by appointment; and I add to that the statement that God rules and reigns; that this is his work; that he is at the helm and that his work, established here upon the earth, is for the purpose of bringing back to him his children who are away from home, out on missions in the world. I feel that we are away from home in this earth; that we have been sent, at an appointed time, into the world to prove unto the Lord what we will do under certain conditions and circumstances. I appreciate more fully every day of my life the fact that I have been so favored of the Lord as to come into the world when his gospel is here and his holy priesthood is in force among the children of men; when he has prophets and apostles and officers in the Church appointed by his divine command and under his direction, so that there could be no mistake, and that men who desire to

serve him might know the truth.

The Priesthood of the Son of God is sacred, and that man who holds it has been entrusted with a charge that he cannot treat lightly and enjoy the blessings and the testimony of this gospel. This is the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, revealed from heaven in the Dispensation of the Fulness of Times in which we live. Men have received it by direct revelation; men have received a knowledge of it in the dreams of the night; men have been visited by angels until there can be no question as to the stand of this Church of our God here in the earth.

A short time ago I received a letter from a young man, in one of the states in the mission over which I have had the privilege to preside for some time, asking me to send a missionary to baptize him. It was at a time when missionaries were very scarce. I think we had only four in that state. I wrote him a letter, stating: "We will send you the elders just as soon as they can go there." I encouraged him in what he had said in his letter, telling him to continue to investigate, and in the own due time of the Lord the elders would baptize him. He was a stranger to me. I sent the letter to the president of that conference and I said to him: "When it is convenient for you to do so, either visit this gentleman or send one of the elders to baptize him." Shortly after that we had a conference in that state; I had forgotten the incident entirely, but the conference president had notified the young man that we were going to hold a conference and invited him to come to the city where we would hold our meetings. The young man attended our priesthood meeting,

and his tears flowed freely. He enjoyed the Spirit of the Lord as the testimonies of the elders were given, until the last one had spoken, to a degree I presume that few men have had the privilege of witnessing. He told me that he had prayed earnestly to know which church was right. He said: "I made it a matter of prayer for weeks, and I desired to know which church was right, and the name of the Church. I awoke one night with these words before me, in my mind—the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. I had never heard of the Church. I remembered having met some of the "Mormon" elders several years before, when they left some of their literature with us. I hunted it up, and I found the name of the Central States mission upon it. That is why I wrote you that letter."

I know, my brethren and sisters, as I stand here, that he spoke the truth; that God had revealed unto him the truth. It was an answer to the prayers of a righteous man. He was away from home, out in the world, struggling for a living, in poverty, but he borrowed the means to come to conference. The Lord had revealed the truth unto him, and he was brave enough, notwithstanding the fact that his wife told him if he was baptized she would leave him—he was brave enough to stand for the right, to go down into the waters of baptism, and another witness of God's power was given unto the children of men in this dispensation.

I have witnessed some remarkable manifestations of the Spirit and power of God in my calling as a mission president. I want to say to the young men who happen to be in this conference that when you are sent to a mission or to a con-

ference you must bear in mind that God rules and reigns and that he knows you; that you did not go into the mission field by chance, but under the inspiration and power of God you were called by the men who stand at the head of the Church. Some months ago four young men came into the Central States mission. We had received but very few elders for months past, on account of the influenza, and a certain portion of our mission was very much in need of elders, as we had only one or two in a great territory. I said to the secretary of the mission: "We will send these four men to such and such a place, away into the South, a thousand miles from Kansas City." He said: "I believe that is the place they ought to go. We need them there." But when I thought about it, I saw three of those boys sitting together and one apart, at one side. I could not get the vision of those boys out of my mind, and so I said to the secretary: "Elder Platt, we will leave it until tomorrow. We can't send them out today anyway." In the morning when I met again with the young men, I was going to say we would send them all to this certain place; but in my mind again three of them sat together and one was by himself. I said to the three: "We will send you to Texas." To this young man I said: "We will keep you here, and you may labor in Kansas City." I did not know why I had come to this decision. I battled against it, because I wanted to send him away, but a month after that time, in a priesthood meeting, he bore his testimony and mentioned the fact that when he was a boy, ten years of age, he had been promised by a patriarch, in his patriarch-

al blessing, that he would grow up and fill a mission, and that he would be sent to the state of Missouri. Then I found out why I was impressed to keep that young man in the state of Missouri.

At another conference I attended shortly after that, an elder bore his testimony in a priesthood meeting, in which he related the following incident: He was out tracting one day, and as he approached the home of a certain lady, she said to him: "Come in, you are the man I saw in my dream." She was a Turkish woman; her father was a Mohammedan. She had been in this country perhaps ten or fifteen years. She related unto him how she had been praying earnestly for the truth and the Lord had shown her in the dreams of the night this elder; so that when he walked up to her door, stood on the steps with that book in his hand, she recognized him and said: "Come in, for I have seen you in a dream."

I want to say to you again, brethren and sisters, men and women have had blessings pronounced upon their heads before this world was, and they are being fulfilled here according to the faithfulness of those who have received them. I have lived in company with the best men and women upon this earth. I have associated at home with the leaders of this Church since the days of my appointment in the ministry some years ago, and in the mission field I have associated with boys and men and women who have been appointed to preach the gospel, and who have lived lives that give such radiance and influence as testify that they are sent of God and that there cannot be anything better on this earth. The influence of missionaries is

heavenly. I want to say to you, my brethren and sisters, we are living in a precious time, and enjoying blessings that the world at large will never know. Happy is the man or woman who receives a call to go into the ministry and who fulfills it honorably and honestly, and who works for the good of the children of men. Many times when I have held conferences all day with the people, having later to leave in a few hours, I have said to the elders: "We will go out into the park of this city, as the night is hot, and I will visit with you, brethren; we will sit down upon the seats, draw them together, and I will spend my time with you until we have to separate." I want to tell you here today that I have received undeniable manifestations of God's power. I believe the angels of heaven have been with us; there is no influence, no spirit more sweet than that manifested when those boys sit down and talk to you as they would talk to each other, ask questions and say: "We are glad to be here. We love you. We love the work of the Lord."

I have said to those elders: "When you go into the field there is only one thing to do, and that is to work and pray. If you will pray in the morning and pray at night and keep at work, God will inspire you so that, although you may be alone, you will be able to withstand the attacks of the adversary, with the power of a prophet, and with a power that has never been witnessed by you in all your life, and you will go home again clean and honorably released. It will be not only a pleasure to you, not only a gift of God unto you, but you will be a blessing to the people, to the boys

and girls with whom you associate when you return."

In my closing remarks I wish to say: If you fathers and mothers can extend the time of a missionary from twenty-four months to thirty months, and give that boy six months more training in the field, you can not make a better investment while you are here upon the earth. I pray the Lord to bless us in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

ELDER THEODORE TOBIASON

(President of the Swedish Mission.)

Beloved brethren and sisters, I am pleased to have this opportunity to stand before you and bear my testimony concerning the great work in which we are engaged. It is only a short time since I came back from Sweden, and I am pleased with the opportunity of returning again, inasmuch as the servants of the Lord have seen fit to call me into the mission field. I trust that I shall be able to do some good while I am away, in bearing testimony to the restoration of the gospel of Christ, as we Latter-day Saints have received it. I am thankful for the gospel and for the Church of which you and I are members. I am thankful for the testimony which the Lord has implanted in my soul, and I know this is the work of the Lord. I know these, my brethren, whom we have had the privilege of sustaining at this conference are servants of God, called by him to stand at the head to direct his work in this dispensation and at this time. I can especially bear testimony, my brethren and sisters, concerning our beloved president.

I wish to relate an incident of which I have spoken two or three times before; but I want to bear you my testimony that God has shown me that President Heber J. Grant is the right man in the right place. Some four weeks ago, in the temple of our God, at a fast meeting, the President was speaking. I was sitting on my seat, looking very intently upon him, as I do upon all speakers, desiring to hear all they say. All of a sudden, President Grant had disappeared; I did not see him, but I saw our beloved president, Joseph F. Smith, who departed this life a few months ago. I saw the mantle of the Prophet resting upon our beloved brother, and I thought that this was another testimony unto me that he was the right man in the right place. I had never doubted but what this was the case—never in the world. I know the order of the Church too well for that; but God made manifest unto me that the mantle of the Prophet had fallen upon President Grant, and he was indeed his legal and lawful successor. Several of my brethren and sisters have come to me, after I had spoken of this matter and even today, saying that they saw the same thing. I know this is true. I have heard some of the Saints tell, who were in Nauvoo at the time, or shortly after, the Prophet was martyred, how, when the Prophet Brigham Young was speaking, they saw the mantle of the Prophet Joseph Smith fall upon him, and they knew that he was the right man to stand at the head and lead Israel. I bear you my testimony, concerning our beloved president, that that is the case now: the mantle of the prophet has fallen upon him. The spirit of the prophet is in his soul

and in the souls of those of my brethren whom we have sustained here. I can sustain them with all my heart.

Some people say: "Why, you folks are foolish to spend so much of your time in the missionary field. You are imposed upon by those who preside over you." I will say this, that when the prophet of God speaks, I obey. I would not think for a moment of making any excuses or of trying to get out of any duty or work that may be placed upon me, when the Lord says so and so is the case; we desire you to do so and so.

I know that the gospel is true and that it is the power of God unto salvation for all those who will live in harmony with it. I know that in the gospel is the only true freedom that can be enjoyed here on the earth. The Savior said, when many were finding fault with him, when many tried to catch him in his words, that there were some who believed in him, and he said to them: "If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed. And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free." There is nothing under the heavens, nothing on the earth or anywhere else, nothing but the truth that can make men and women free. If they are made free in the truth and by the truth, they are free men indeed, and they are not slaves. It is because of this testimony that is within our souls that we know that God speaks through his servants, and we obey, not because we are slaves; no, but we are truly free men, and we know the voice of the Good Shepherd when we hear it, and strive to order our lives accordingly.

May the Lord bless us, and help us all to be true and faithful. Let us never find fault, my brethren and sisters, with those whom the Lord has appointed, but let us sustain them with all our souls. If we hear anyone finding fault, let us take them to task and show them the way to go; and if we will sustain his chosen servants on earth, the Lord will sustain us; he will honor us. The Lord delights to honor those who serve him in righteousness and in truth unto the end. May this be our happy lot, I ask in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

ELDER REY L. PRATT

(President of the Mexican Mission.)

I sincerely trust, my brethren and sisters, that I may be able this afternoon to briefly express my feelings and bear unto you the testimony that abides in me concerning the truthfulness of the work in which we are engaged. To those of us who come from the mission field, from our labors in the world, it is a special treat to meet at these conferences and to listen to the teachings of the brethren who preside over us in the priesthood. I have thought as I have listened to the inspired words that have fallen from the lips of the speakers throughout this conference, that the prayer uttered by J. G. Holland, and mentioned by Elder Ivins in his remarks, has truly been answered in the men who surround us and stand at the head of the Church today; and as for that matter, I do not remember a time in my life when the same could not have been said of the authorities and the leaders of the Church. I was born in the Church; I spent my boyhood days

in Salt Lake City, and it has ever been a delight to me to sit and listen to the teachings of the brethren of the apostles and the presidency of the Church, the first seven presidents of seventy, and those who minister among the people. I cannot remember the time when I did not know President Grant, and perhaps he never has known it, but from my boyhood days he has been an ideal of mine, a man that I have looked upon as one that I might follow with safety. I am thankful to the Lord to have been permitted in this conference to stand upon my feet and raise my hand and covenant with the Lord that I will sustain him as a prophet, a seer and a revelator unto the Church, and the President of the Church. I mean, brethren and sisters, that I will do that. I shall sustain him, and I shall sustain the brethren associated with him, and all the appointments that he makes. I am willing to recognize in him the mouthpiece of the Lord, and when I receive a call from him to go or to come, I shall consider it as coming directly from the Lord. I can answer that I will go where he wants me to go, and stay when he wants me to stay.

I rejoice in the gospel; I know that it is true. My heart goes out today to the people who are not acquainted with these truths, to the people who are not acquainted with the gospel, to the great number of our Father's children in the world who have not yet received a testimony of the truthfulness of the gospel, who are, in a measure, in darkness. My great desire is to continue to labor faithfully and humbly in the preaching of the gospel and to teach the people of the world the way to live, teach them the truth by which they might

be made free and the path which they might follow to find a way back into the kingdom of our Father in heaven. It seems to me, brethren and sisters, as I have noticed conditions in the world, that there never was a more opportune time than the present for the preaching of the gospel. It seems there never was a time when it was more needed than it is today; and, I do not know whether I have felt just right about it or not, but it seems to me that the time is near at hand when the Church will be called upon to do even more than it has done in the past in the preaching of the gospel unto the people of the earth. I find, in parts of the United States where I have traveled, where missionary work has been done off and on ever since the Church was organized, that there are many people who have no knowledge of the gospel, who have never had its principles explained unto them. There is a lack of laborers in the vineyard; there is room for many, many more than those who are now engaged in the ministry.

My particular work, brethren and sisters, has been to the Mexican people. I realize very well theodium and almost hatred under which the people of Mexico are laboring today, because of the conditions that exist in their country. But I want to tell you, brethren and sisters, that they are the Lord's children and the Lord loves them. Further than that, they are his covenant people. I wish to explain to you this afternoon that the Mexican people along with the Indians of North America and the people of Central and South America are the Lamanites. They are the people who are the descendants of

Lehi, through his disobedient sons, Laman and Lemuel. But they have the promise of the Lord extended to them. I would like to read to you this afternoon to explain our relationship as a people to this branch of the Lord's covenant people; for I sometimes feel that we forget that the gospel is unto all the world. We forget, some of us, at least, that the Lord is able to raise up even those who are down-trodden and down-cast, and who labor under a curse, as these people do. I wish to call your attention this afternoon to our responsibilities before that people. We realize our responsibilities, pretty well, I take it, with reference to the people of other nations; but I find many people who say to me, in referring to the people among whom I have labored: "Would it not be a good thing for the Lord to wipe them off the earth and people their country with somebody else?" It touches my heart. I love the people among whom the Lord has called me to labor, and I desire to continue to labor for their uplift and for their redemption. I take hope in the fact that the Lord has promised that they should be redeemed from their fallen condition, and I feel a responsibility because he has also said that their redemption should come at the hands of the Gentiles, people among whom the fulness of the gospel should be restored. Nephi, in explaining to his brethren a vision received by his father, said:

"Behold, I say unto you, that the house of Israel was compared unto an olive-tree, by the Spirit of the Lord which was in our fathers; and behold are we not broken off from the house of Israel? and are we not a branch of the house of Israel?"

"And now, the thing which our

father meaneth concerning the grafting in of the natural branches through the fulness of the Gentiles, is, that in the latter days, when our seed shall have dwindled in unbelief, yea, for the space of many years, and many generations after the Messiah shall be manifested in body unto the children of men, then shall the fulness of the gospel of the Messiah come unto the Gentiles, and from the Gentiles unto the remnant of our seed:

"And at that day shall the remnant of our seed know that they are of the house of Israel, and that they are the covenant people of the Lord; and then shall they know and come to the knowledge of their forefathers, and also to the knowledge of the gospel of their Redeemer which was ministered unto their fathers by him; wherefore they shall come to the knowledge of their Redeemer, and the very points of his doctrine, that they may know how to come unto him and be saved.

"And then at that day will they not rejoice and give praise unto their everlasting God, their rock and their salvation? Yea, at that day, will they not receive the strength and nourishment from the true vine? Yea, will they not come unto the true fold of God?

"Behold, I say unto you, Yea; they shall be remembered again among the house of Israel; they shall be grafted in, being a natural branch of the olive tree, into the true olive tree;

"And this is what our father meaneth; and he meaneth that it will not come to pass until after they are scattered by the Gentiles; and he meaneth that it shall come by way of the Gentiles; that the Lord may shew his power unto the Gentiles, for the very cause that he shall be rejected of the Jews, or of the house of Israel."

We see, then, by this, my brethren and sisters, that the mission of redeeming that people is resting upon our shoulders; for I testify to you this afternoon that I know that the gospel of the Redeemer has been restored unto us, and that through the instrumentality of the Prophet Joseph Smith the Church of God has been organized and ex-

ists upon the earth. The gospel is here and with it the powers thereof. The power of the holy priesthood exists in the Church today, the right to call men to repentance, the right, the commission of God to man to call men to repentance and administer in all of the ordinances necessary for the salvation of men. I testify to you further, that I know that an angel of the Lord delivered to this same Prophet the golden record written by prophets of an ancient day, from which this book was translated, and I testify to you that I know that the Book of Mormon is the word of God, it contains the gospel of the Redeemer, and it speaks of our duties towards the descendants of this people. Brethren and sisters, just one more word before I conclude:

"And now, I would prophesy somewhat more concerning the Jews and the Gentiles. For after the book of which I have spoken shall come forth, and be written unto the Gentiles, and sealed up again unto the Lord there shall be many which shall believe, the words which are written, and they shall carry them forth unto the remnant of our seed.

"And then shall the remnant of our seed know concerning us, how that we came out from Jerusalem, and that they are descendants of the Jews.

"And the gospel of Jesus Christ shall be declared among them; wherefore, they shall be restored unto the knowledge of their fathers, and also to the knowledge of Jesus Christ, which was had among their fathers."

I sense the responsibility of this call, my brethren and sisters, and I trust that my ministry will bear out the testimony that I have given here today, that I do love them, and that I desire to serve them; for I know that in serving them and endeavoring to bring them to a knowledge of the Lord I am

serving him and that I will get my reward. I am thankful to the Lord that young men are being called today to labor in the Mexican mission and among the Indians throughout the Southwest of the United States, over whom I, perhaps, shall have the honor of presiding. I would like to say to the young men of Israel, do not deem it a misfortune to be called to labor among that people; it is a grand, a glorious privilege, and not a cross, that has come to you.

O, boys, try to get the spirit of it, to live up to the hymn that has been sung during this conference, and believe it when you say, "I'll go where you want me to go, dear Lord, I'll do what you want me to do, I'll say what you want me to say."

O, you mothers, let your boys go out with the spirit of service in their hearts, not with a desire to acquire polish, to get an education, and to come home and shine as bright lights, but encourage them through your letters to them, to go out and to feel after those who are out there who are in darkness, those who are hungering and thirsting after righteousness, those who need the spiritual food that can be administered unto them by none others than the members of this Church who have the priesthood of Almighty God, and the right to minister and call men to repentance, to baptize for the remission of sin. I want to tell you that the man who goes out in the spirit of true service will come back greater than the man who goes out expecting and aiming to get polish. We are told in the book of Doctrine and Covenants that we should not go out to be taught. I think sometimes we should not go out to learn. We

are told distinctly we should go out to teach. We are supposed to know, we are supposed to have a knowledge of the truth, and we are supposed to have a testimony and be able to teach the world that by which it may be saved.

I want to testify that I know that God lives, that Jesus is his Son, that he came in the meridian of time, that he is the Redeemer of the world; and I testify to you further that I know that Joseph Smith was a Prophet and that through him the gospel, which is the power of God unto salvation, is established again in the world. I testify to you that I know that the men who have succeeded the Prophet Joseph Smith, as seers and revelators and prophets unto this Church, are indeed prophets, seers and revelators. I testify further that I know that Heber J. Grant, who stands at the head of the Church today, is God's mouthpiece unto not only the Church, but the whole world, and whatever the Lord has to say to the world today, he will say through that instrumentality. May the Lord bless us and help us to thank him for a prophet, and to show our thankfulness by obedience to the words that shall come to us from him, is my prayer in the name of Jesus. Amen.

ELDER CHARLES W. NIBLEY

(Presiding Bishop of the Church.)

I have very much enjoyed this conference and the spirit of it, and I know that the Saints will return from these gatherings with a feeling in their souls that the Lord is with his people, the Latter-day Saints, and he is still at the helm. I believe the Lord is pleased with

his Church as a whole. I think that will be the opinion of the brethren and sisters who leave this conference, who have been attending faithfully at these meetings.

There has run through the sermons, the addresses, the remarks of the brethren who have spoken, this thread of thought that there will soon be a great spiritual awakening in the world and a great missionary movement in the Church, which will go out from the Church and accomplish more than has ever hitherto been accomplished in its history. I believe in that thought. I have felt that spirit and influence from the day that President Grant was made President of the Church. The world begins to see what we have to give. If I were asked to state what is the greatest need of the world today, I would answer in these words: "The knowledge of God." There be lords many and gods many. Men have ideas of God and godliness in multitudinous forms; but to know the only true and living God—that is the greatest need of all the world to-day. It is he whom we worship; it is he whom we serve. Within this Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints—and only within this Church—is the key of the knowledge of God. Herein is salvation for you and me, and salvation for all the world. In this book, the Doctrine and Covenants, are covenants and commandments, doctrines and principles, which form the only league that will ever enforce peace in all the world. Herein we are told of the doctrine of obedience, and we try to follow it. We are told of the doctrine of community and social life, and we try to live according to those precepts. The government of the

Church, the government of the people, the organization of the Church and of the priesthood quorums supplementing the work of the civil government, is far better and greater in every way than anything that man has ever yet known. There is salvation in it all. No man of himself can teach it. He must have the influence and the spirit of it, and there goes with this work, with these quorums of the priesthood, with these organizations in the wards and branches and stakes and missions, a spirit, an influence and a power that are of God, that man cannot give, that man cannot take away, and of which the world does not know. Therein is the key, as we are told in this book of revelation—the key of knowledge of God whom to know is life eternal.

Organized under this league, this covenant, you have the true organization from the Lord which will bring peace. Oh what peace! A peace that passeth understanding. It is good for my soul; it is good for you and for all mankind. When this is established, we will have a society extending and growing where there will be no I. W. W. or labor troubles. Why? Because in this league and covenant, the doctrine is laid down that the idler shall not eat the bread of the laborer. Everyone shall work and labor according to his strength and his ability. Therein is salvation, and no salvation outside of that. We are told in this league and covenant how we shall conduct ourselves in our homes, as we heard from Elder McKay yesterday; what we shall eat, that is good for us, and what we shall drink or abstain from drinking. We are told that we shall retire early and rise early, and how we

shall live, in order to prolong our lives and be strong and healthful. The Lord tells of this in this covenant; for, as the Lord says, if a man is faithful in receiving these priesthoods, and keeping the commandments of the Lord, his body shall be renewed; his strength will be renewed beyond his years, so that he shall live to be aged and strong like President Penrose and President Lund and many others that we have in our community. We are told how to regulate our family life, how to govern and control our children, and teach them how to pray. In all the affairs of life, in all the activities with which we have to do, we may turn to this book, and here find instruction. Here is guidance, here is direction, here is complete salvation, and nowhere else than here. The authority of the Holy Priesthood of the Son of God is here. The Lord whom he has chosen, and as Brother Joseph Fielding Smith said yesterday, a truth that we ought to know and remember always—that no man will ever come to the presidency of this Church unless the Lord wants him to be there. Don't forget that.

Now there is a great work to do. I ask myself: am I doing my share? In the olden times I know our parents went through great trials and made great sacrifices. In the days of the early apostles of this Church they made great sacrifices. Read of the time, in 1838 and '39, when the Lord told the Twelve to go over the great water, to go to England and establish missions. The conditions in which they left their families and the conditions under which they went, and stayed and returned, were all very

trying. The sacrifice that our fathers and mothers made in the building up of this country were very great. But are you making any particular sacrifice now? Am I making any particular sacrifice? I do not know that I am. We go out to the conferences and preach here and there, we talk to the Saints; we are well cared for. We have good beds in which to sleep, and when we are hungry we are furnished the best that the land affords, for us to eat. I do not call that much of a sacrifice.

Now, my brethren and sisters, let us ask ourselves the question, and members of this Church everywhere, how much of a sacrifice am I making for the work of the Lord today? Are you? Not very much, as a rule. There is a sister here and there, a widow woman perhaps, here and there, with her son out on a mission. She is working hard to sustain that son, she is making some sacrifice—a thousand times more than I am. Such as she are making sacrifices, but with you and me, and the rest of us, it is different, for we are not sacrificing very much. It is time that we should get it into our hearts that we, too, can make some sacrifice, we, too, can help to do something to build up the kingdom of God. There is a world to save, and herein I repeat, is the plan of salvation, and the only plan, the only salvation for the world is here in this league and covenant, which shall take in all the nations, in time. "For it shall come to pass," says one of old, "that every knee shall bow and every tongue shall confess"—confess what? "Confess that Jesus is the Christ, to the glory of God the Father." O, I hear it said sometimes: "We have warned the

world." We have, have we? Why, since President Woodrow Wilson was sent out as a missionary, and since President Penrose started as a missionary, don't you know there have been two generations of men and women who have risen and fallen since then? There is a new generation now, and freedom has come to rule the world instead of force. That is the principle that has been fought out in the Great War that is now happily closing—that freedom shall rule, and that the rule of force shall never again assert itself for any length of time in this world. The great German poet Goethe saw this clearly, for in his play, "Faust," I think it is, he states it in these words, as I recall the translation. "This ancient truth"—very ancient truth, remember, older than the world itself—

"This ancient truth still holds its course:
If you adopt the rule of force,
And boldly seek your chosen goal,
You risk your own, your all, your soul."

So the rule of force, by which the German emperor sought to dominate the world, has been vanquished, whipped, destroyed; and freedom has come now to all the world. There are generations of men and women growing up who have never heard the sound of this gospel. Cannot you do something? Cannot I do something? Am I not willing to sacrifice something that they may hear this message? They are the children of my Father, my God. They are my brothers and sisters. Just consider what our Father says he sacrificed for you and for me: "God so loved the world"—do you love the world? Your son has been sent out, not voluntarily perhaps, some may

have volunteered, but generally they were conscripted, but they have gone and they have offered their lives for their country. Wasn't it a sacrifice? It was, and a great one, even when they return with their lives; but God so loved the world that he gave his Only Begotten Son that mankind might not perish but have everlasting life. That is the sacrifice he made; that is the sacrifice his Son made. Are we willing, am I willing, are you and all of us willing to make any sacrifice further for this work, this great cause, this great missionary movement and effort that is upon the Church, or will be, whereby mankind may be saved and come to a knowledge of the Son of God? The key of that knowledge of God rests with you. Men may think they know him; men may try to understand him; but by and with the organizations of this Church and through the authority of the holy priesthood, the power of godliness is manifested to men in the flesh; but without this priesthood—so says this league and covenant—"without this priesthood and the ordinances of the gospel, the power of godliness is not made manifest to men in the flesh." You have that knowledge. Shall we not share it, shall we not do something and say something to spread this truth abroad? We sing and repeat the song, that we are willing to do; but how much am I doing? Not much. Doing may be according to my years and strength and ability, what I am called to do; but I am making no particular sacrifice, I don't count it so, for a moment. On the contrary, I have been greatly benefited because of my connection with the Church. The Church has helped me infinitely more than I

will ever be able to help it. And I see presidents of stakes and leaders of the people in this Church everywhere who likewise have been benefited greatly because of the positions they have been called to fill in this Church. Who among us has the Church not helped? Who among us all can say that the Church has not been a foster father and a blessing in every way. So the Church has made me. Cannot I do something for the Church? The Lord has made us, and not we ourselves. Cannot we do something for him? We are not doing a great deal yet. The Lord help us to re-

solve anew in our hearts that by and with the help of his Spirit we will be willing to sacrifice if need be and show him that for mankind we will do something. We love his children because he loves them, even all the children of men. They are my brothers; they are your brothers; they are his children. God help us to appreciate that great fact and to live by every word that proceedeth forth from the mouth of God, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Arnold E. Blackner sang a solo: "O Lord, Remember Me."

PRESIDENT HEBER J. GRANT.

I have in my hand a little book entitled *Abraham Lincoln's Don'ts*. I wish to read just two or three selections:

SAYINGS FROM PRESIDENT LINCOLN.

"I feel that I cannot succeed without the Divine blessing, and on the Almighty Being I place my reliance for support."

"Two principles have stood face to face from the beginning of time and will ever continue to struggle. The one is the common right of humanity: the other is the divine right of kings."

The common right of humanity has come very near achieving a complete and perfect triumph in the great war that is now closed.

"Teach men that what they cannot take by an election they cannot take by war."

"Take all the Bible upon reason that you can, and the balance on faith, and you will live and die a better man."

"Never send a wrathful letter—burn it, and write another."

WORK FOR A SUNDAY LAW AT THE NEXT LEGISLATURE.

I wish that I could impress this sentiment which I am about to read, upon the heart of every Latter-day Saint who shall hear it:

"Let reverence for the laws be breathed by every American mother to the lisping babe that prattles on her lap; let it be taught in schools, in seminaries and colleges; let it be written in primers, spelling books and almanacs; let it be preached from the pulpit, proclaimed in legislative halls, and enforced in courts of justice. And, in short, let it become the political religion of the nation; and let the old and the young, the rich and the poor, the grave and gay of all sexes and tongues and colors and conditions sacrifice unceasingly upon its altars."

And remember that God Almighty has told us to reverence the Sabbath day and to keep it holy. We have tried for years to get a Sunday law, but up to date, we have failed. The good representatives from the

outside counties have said: "If you want a Sunday law, you Salt Lake people enact it." We cannot get the men in the legislature to give it to us. We appeal to the good sisters who have the vote, to try and see that no one shall be sent to the legislature from this county or any other county, at its next session, who is not in favor of a Sunday law. (Applause.)

MORE SELECTIONS FROM LINCOLN.

"What's the matter with my two boys? Just what's the matter with the whole world. I've got three walnuts and each wants two."

"The prudent, penniless beginner in the world labors for wages for a while, saves a surplus with which to buy land or tools for himself, then labors for himself another while, and at length hires another new beginner, to help him. This is the just and generous and prosperous system which opens the way to all, gives hope to all, and consequent energy and progress and improvement of condition to all."

I wish to the Lord that this could be burned into the very heart of the I. W. W.

ANONYMOUS LETTERS.

I have received a lot of anonymous letters, since I became President of the Church, telling me a great many things that people would like me to announce here, positions they would like me to take, etc., to all of which I shall pay no attention. Any person who wishes to write me a letter and give me pointers should not be afraid to sign his name.

KIND WORDS FOR THE GERMANS.

I did, however, receive one letter from a good sister who signed her name, asking me to say some kind words, if I could do so, regarding the German people. She said it was generally understood, among many of the German Latter-day Saints, that I had hatred in my heart for the German people. I suppose that came from the fact that a year ago last April I spoke of infamous German conceptions, and paid my respects to the Kaiser, with all the force and ability with which God has endowed me. I quoted from that same inspired poet, Goethe, to whom Brother Nibley has referred here today. I did not quote from Goethe's very wonderful play "Faust," but from a simple little poem of four verses which I will read again:

"There are three lessons I would write,
Three words as with a burning pen,
In tracings of eternal light
Upon the hearts of men.

Have faith, though clouds environ round
And gladness hides her face in scorn,
Put off the darkness from thy brow;
No night but hath its morn.

Have hope, where'er thy bark is driven,
The calm distorts the tempest's mirth.
Know this, God rules the Hosts of Heaven,
The inhabitants of earth."

I said last year, that I hoped Kaiser William will live to have these words burned into his very brain. I guess he has learned that lesson, by this time, over in Holland: "Know this, God rules the Hosts of Heaven, the inhabitants of earth." I hope he has learned that simple truth. But there was a time when he thought he had so much power that he was going to rule the earth. Goethe closes his poem with this supreme declaration of love—a declaration in keeping with the teachings of our Lord and Master, Jesus Christ.

"Have love—not love alone for one,
But man as man thy brother call,
And scatter as a circling sun
Thy charities on all."

Every German who believes in these inspired teachings of Goethe has my love and confidence, but the Germans who believe in force, and who sustained the Kaiser, do not have my love and my support. My remarks were concluded in such a way that I am astonished any good German would imagine I had any ill will toward the German people. I will read what I said a year ago last April:

"In my anxiety to get through with as many items as possible in twenty-five minutes I came near neglecting to say one thing which I desire to say:"

Those of you who were here will remember that I sat down and afterwards asked permission, of President Smith, to add a few remarks, and this is what I said:

"I have never traveled with a man who impressed me more as loving God, and more determined to give to this work of our Redeemer his life's labor, than did the late Karl G. Maeser. I believe that the men and women whom the gospel found in Germany, and who in all honor embraced it, are as loyal, as true, and as patriotic as any other people who have joined the Church of Christ. The night following my call for a mission to Japan I lay awake until after three o'clock in the morning, and in thinking of those who were aged, and whom I hoped and prayed might live until I returned, I thought of my own dear mother, of John R. Winder, of George Romney, of Karl G. Maeser, and of others whom I loved with all my heart. I feel that the Germans who have embraced the Truth and who have the love of God and the love of our Redeemer in their hearts are as willing to go forth to battle against wrong and error as the people of any other nation who have embraced the gospel of Jesus Christ.

"May the Lord help us who know the Truth to go on proclaiming it, and bringing people to a knowledge of the Redeemer, and teaching them to love their fellow men instead of robbing and killing them, is my prayer and desire, and I ask it in the name of Jesus. Amen."

Now that is exactly how I felt a little over a year ago, and I have not changed my opinion. God bless the German Latter-day Saints. I love them. I love the honest, the world over. I expect a bountiful harvest of souls in Germany. I believe that there are millions of people in Germany who have never sustained, in their hearts, the course that was taken by the ruling classes; but it would have been as much as their lives were worth for them to have dared to assert themselves in opposition to the men who were in power. I hope the time is near at hand when liberty will prevail, when there will be peace, as far as we can get it—and efforts to that end

will be put forth by a League of Nations, and the people will strive to the best of their ability to bring about that condition. When that time comes, I expect a reign of liberty in Germany, and there will be a great harvest of souls in that land.

FATHER AND SON—TRAINING CHILDREN.

When Brother E. Wesley Smith was speaking here this morning about the necessity of parents being one with their children, giving them proper teachings and knowing where they are, holding up to us the example of his father, I thought of two splendid poems in a little book entitled *A Heap o' Livin'*. As they contain some excellent thoughts on father and son, I decided to read them to you today.

ANSWERING HIM.

"When shall I be a man?" he said,
As I was putting him to bed.
"How many years will have to be
Before Time makes a man of me?
And will I be a man when I
Am grown up big?" I heaved a sigh,
Because it called for careful thought
To give the answer that he sought.

And so I sat him on my knee,
And said to him: "A man you'll be
When you have learned that honor brings
More joy than all the crowns of kings;
That it is better to be true
To all who know and trust in you
Than all the gold of earth to gain,
If winning it shall leave a stain.

"When you can fight for victory sweet,
Yet bravely swallow down defeat,
And cling to hope and keep the right,
Nor use deceit instead of might;
When you are kind and brave and clean,
And fair to all and never mean;
When there is good in all you plan,
That day, my boy, you'll be a man.

"Some of us learn this truth too late;
That years alone can't make us great;
That many who are three-score ten
Have fallen short of being men,
Because in selfishness they fought
And toiled without refining thought;
And whether wrong or whether right
They lived but for their own delight.

"When you have learned that you must hold
Your honor dearer far than gold;
That no ill-gotten wealth or fame
Can pay you for your tarnished name;
And when in all you say or do
Of others you're considerate, too,
Content to do the best you can
By such a creed, you'll be a man."

Edgar A. Guest.

FATHER AND SON.

Be more than his dad,
 Be a chum to the lad;
 Be a part of his life
 Every hour of the day;
 Find time to talk with him,
 Take time to walk with him,
 Share in his studies
 And share in his play;
 Take him to places,
 To ball games and races,
 Teach him the things
 That you want him to know;
 Don't live apart from him,
 Don't keep your heart from him,
 Be his best comrade,
 He's needing you so!

Never neglect him,
 Though young, still respect him,
 Hear his opinions
 With patience and pride;
 Show him his error,
 But be not a terror,
 Grim-visaged and fearful,
 When he's at your side.
 Know what his thoughts are,
 Know what his sports are,
 Know all his playmates,
 It's easy to learn to;
 Be such a father
 That when troubles gather
 You'll be the first one
 For counsel, he'll turn to.

You can inspire him
 With courage and fire him
 Hot with ambition
 For deeds that are good;
 He'll not betray you
 Nor illy repay you
 If you have taught him
 The things that you should.
 Father and son
 Must in all things be one—
 Partners in trouble
 And comrades in joy.
 More than a dad
 Was the best pal you had;
 Be such a chum
 As you knew, to your boy.

Edgar A. Guest.

MISCONSTRUCTION AND MISAPPLICATION OF PUBLIC UTTERANCES.

Some years ago I preached a sermon in this Tabernacle. At the close of the service, on my way home, between here and the Eagle Gate, six or seven men complimented me for "spanking in public" Brother Abraham H. Cannon who had spoken just before I did. Two or three

days later some seven or eight men were in the President's office, and I was summoned before them and taken to task for "spanking" Brother Cannon. They were very angry. They were all Republicans, and all those who had complimented me were Democrats. Brother Abraham and I were there at this meeting, and I asked him if he knew that he was spanked. He said, no, he did not; and I remarked, "If I spanked you in public, I must have done it in my sleep. I quite frequently sleep when *other people* are talking; but, up to date, I have not learned to sleep while I am talking. I am not aware of saying one single, solitary word that reflected on what you said."

I requested that those two sermons be published in the *Deseret News*, one following the other; that neither Abraham nor I be permitted to read them before publication. When they were published I was to appear at the President's office and I would make any apology that was necessary for spanking Brother Abraham in public. Brother Cannon and I read them to ourselves and then read them aloud, and we could not find one single, solitary word wherein I had found any fault with what he had said, neither could the Presidency. So I did not have to apologize. Do you know, it is a very easy matter for us to misconstrue what people say, and make such an application that it may appear partisan or as if it were intended for personal advantage, in some way, shape or manner.

ENDORSEMENT OF THE SPEECHES OF THIS CONFERENCE.

I believe, as I believe the gospel, that all the speakers in this conference have spoken the honest sentiments of their hearts. I feel sure that the same may be said of those who spoke in the Assembly Hall and in the other overflow meetings, although I did not hear their remarks. I am confident all that has been said was intended for your good and my good, and for the advancement of God's kingdom here on earth. I endorse all that has been said here, by every speaker. I thank every man to whom I have listened, for the inspiration of the Spirit of the Lord that has come to him. I thank the Saints from the bottom of my heart for their vote of confidence.

A PLEDGE AND DECLARATION.

I can pledge to you the best that is in me to fulfil the high and holy calling that has come to me, to exercise in righteousness the power of the Priesthood of the living God, which centers in me, and to administer my office as the Trustee-in-Trust, holding your property, to expend it and use it to the very best of the ability with which God shall endow me. I expect to counsel with my counselors, with the Twelve Apostles and with the Presiding Bishopric of the Church—the men to whom the Lord refers in the revelation given to the Prophet Joseph Smith, naming the men who are to expend the funds of this Church; although I realize and know that legally and technically, I have the right to handle your funds personally, because of your vote, just as my predecessors have had that right. Yet I know that in a multitude of counsel there is safety, and I expect to have that multitude of counsel.

Again I pray God to bless all Israel, and to bless all men and all

women, the world over, who are honest in heart, who are prayerful, who are virtuous and who desire to do good. I pray God to have mercy on the sinners and to inspire them to repent. God bless you all, I ask it in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

The choir and congregation sang: "Up, awake, ye defenders of Zion."

PRESIDENT HEBER J. GRANT

In announcing the hymn President Grant said: President Charles W. Penrose wrote this hymn at the time Johnston's army was coming to Utah to destroy the "Mormons." Apparently the army did not make a very good job of it, because we are here. This hymn, by President Penrose, was sung in many places in England, creating considerable enthusiasm. In the London conference alone over \$3,000 were raised to pay the return fares of elders who were in England, that they might return to Zion and be among those who were to be "destroyed."

The benediction was pronounced by Elder Seymour B. Young, senior president of the Council of Seventy.

Conference adjourned until October, 1919.

Professor Anthony C. Lund conducted the singing in the Tabernacle. Professor John J. McClellan played the accompaniments, interludes, etc., on the organ as-

sisted by Edward P. Kimball, and Tracy Y. Cannon.

The stenographic reports of the discourses were taken in the Tabernacle by Elder Franklin W. Otterstrom, assisted by Clyde Rasmussen; and in the Assembly Hall and at the Bureau of Information, by Elder Frederick E. Barker, and Fred G. Barker.

EDWARD H. ANDERSON,
Clerk of Conference.

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